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'WITH 29 LAWMAKERS, CNMI IS POLITICALLY OVERREPRESENTED'

12-member unicameral chamber initiative eyed

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» **Change in Covenant needs US nod, too**

Instead of simply reducing the number of lawmakers from 29 to 18 to help shrink the CNMI government's size, Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan) is proposing a constitutional amendment to convert the current 29-member bicameral legislature to a 12-member unicameral chamber.

"The CNMI is politically overrepresented," Leon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* last night. "It is now time to decrease the Legislature's membership for it to become more efficient and less costly."

Leon Guerrero will prefile today a legislative initiative that seeks to ask voters whether they want a CNMI Senate composed of 12 senators elected at-large.

If approved by three-fourths of each
See 12-MEMBER on Page 4



CUC operating loss in 7 years: \$74M

» **'Utilities corporation a long way to go to become a modern sustainable utility'**

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Despite its progress on several fronts, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. still has a long way to go to become a modern sustainable utility, according to acting CUC executive director Alan Fletcher.

To illustrate, Fletcher said that CUC has long been an underfunded utility and nearly collapsed in 2008-2009, and since 2006 the agency's has racked up operating losses totaling over \$74 million.

Fletcher vowed however, that the agency is committed to implementing the changes necessary to achieve its ultimate goal of becoming a modern utility agency.

"Financially, CUC is in not much better shape today, but despite the financial challenges, it has made great progress in re-establishing reliable power and water services and repairing the utility. CUC fully acknowledges that it has a long way to go to

See CUC on Page 4

ACTING GOVERNOR

Acting governor Ralph Torres, left, signs into law a bill on executive appointments, while the bill's author, Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan), right, looks on, in the governor's conference room yesterday afternoon.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

➤ **See story on Page 4**

Early look at health law's premiums

WASHINGTON (AP)—The No. 1 question about President Barack Obama's health care law is whether consumers will be able to afford the coverage. Now the answer is coming in.

The biggest study yet of premiums posted by states finds that the sticker price for a 21-year-old buying a mid-range policy will average about \$270 a month. That's before government tax credits that act like a discount for most people, bringing down the cost based on their income.

List-price premiums for a 40-year-old buying a mid-range plan will average close to \$330, the study by Avalere Health found. For a 60-year-old, they were nearly double that at

RELATED NEWS

➤ **Studies take early look at health law's premiums.**

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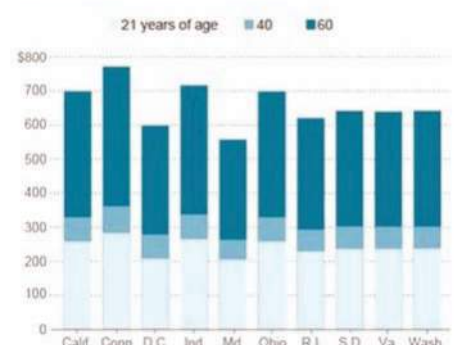
\$615 a month.

Starting Oct. 1, people who don't have health care coverage on their job can go to new online insurance markets in their states to shop for a private plan and find out if they qualify for a tax credit. Come Jan. 1, virtually all Americans will be required to have coverage, or face fines. At the same time, insurance companies will no longer be able to turn away people in poor health.

See HEALTH on Page 4

Chart shows what health insurers are anticipated to charge in various states for coverage under the Affordable Care Act.

Health insurance premiums by age
A new study compares insurance premiums for three age groups under the new health care law in selected states.* Estimated cost for nonsmokers for mid-level coverage known under the law as a "silver" plan.



*Carriers are prohibited from rating based on age in Vermont and New York.
SOURCE: Avalere Health analysis of health insurance rate filings
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Joint budget panel OKs to restore \$2M for DPL, \$200K for MVA

A joint committee from the House of Representatives and Senate working on a compromise version of the fiscal year 2014 budget bill reached another milestone yesterday by agreeing to restore \$2 million for the Department of Public Lands' homestead projects mostly on Rota and Tinian and a \$200,000 portion of the Marianas Visitors Authority budget.

The six-member conference committee led by House Ways and Means Committee chair Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) expects to wrap up its talks today and come up with a committee report.

Taimanao, in a phone interview last night, told *Saipan Tribune* that \$2 million is restored to DPL's budget along with \$200,000 restored for MVA's budget.

Yesterday, the conferees called in DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio and other DPL personnel to discuss the \$2 million taken out and then restored to the department's budget.

The House budget version slashed \$2 million from DPL for its homestead development projects, while the Senate reinstated it, only to be rejected by the House.

The Senate, meanwhile, cut \$200,000 from MVA's budget, which the House didn't agree to.

The conference committee—three each from the House and Senate—is hashing out the differences in the two budget versions.

Among the differences that Taimanao hopes will be settled today is the government utility account—the Senate wants it centralized while the House followed the governor's proposal of a decentralized one to hold each department and agency accountable for their utility expenditures.

They will also resolve the differences on a \$290,000 funding taken out of Rota and transferred to Saipan.

On their first official meeting on Wednesday, the conferees reached a compromise—that of giving the governor 50 extra full-time equivalent positions compared to the House's earlier proposal of 25 and the Senate's 75.

The "compromise" number of additional FTEs is half of Gov. Eloy S. Inos' request of 100.

Taimanao and Sablan separately said they are pleased with the progress made by the conference committee and vowed to continue this until a budget is passed and signed.

If the \$123.4 million budget bill is not passed and signed into law before the start of fiscal year 2014, the CNMI government will have to shut down starting on Oct. 1. The shutdown continues until a new budget is in place. **(Haidee V. Eugenio)**

Guam senators unanimous on budget bill

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Senators have unanimously approved a budget bill for Guam's next fiscal year after going back and forth with Gov. Eddie Calvo on previous drafts.

Territorial lawmakers passed the bill Wednesday, sending the bill to Calvo's desk after multiple vetoes of previous versions, *Pacific Daily News* reported.

Calvo's spokesman Troy Torres said the budget contains pet projects the administration doesn't agree with. But

he said Calvo's office understands that if lawmakers don't get over their impasse, they'll start the new fiscal year without a budget.

"So we'll take a close look at this budget bill," Torres said. "And if push comes to shove, the governor has the authority to line-item-veto appropriations."

The final amount of the budget is not immediately clear. An earlier version of the bill without its final changes had \$722 million in general fund revenue.

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40 attend Dora's memorial service in San Diego

Some 40 family members and friends attended the memorial service of Dora Grace Ada Camacho yesterday (Sept. 4 in the mainland) at the Bernardy Center of the Rady Children's Hospital in San Diego, California.

Camacho succumbed to a brain tumor last Aug. 20 (Saipan time) but her spirit and courage in the face of a debilitating illness helped inspire many people in the Marianas and those who got to know her during her short hospital stay in the mainland.

Camacho's mother, Jennifer Camacho Ada, said her daughter's memorial service "was very good and successful and I'm really happy that everybody including the staff of the Bernardy Center loved the service."



Family members and friends of Dora Grace Ada Camacho encircle the pink urn that contains her ashes during her memorial service held yesterday at the Bernardy Center in San Diego.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

During the memorial, a pink urn that contained Camacho's ashes was placed together with a bouquet of roses and photos of Camacho and Hello Kitty on a table at the Bernardy Center's Friendship Garden.

Ada earlier said she decided to cremate her daughter's remains so that she can scatter her ashes on Saipan once the family finally returns to the island.

Among those present at Camacho's memorial were her uncle, Ignacio C. Ada Jr., and his wife, Ciara M. Ada, who Jennifer Ada said were very fond and loved Camacho so much.

Also at the memorial were Ben Magaahi Lizama and his wife June Lizama, Camacho's stepfather Joe Gayatao, nurses at the Bernardy Center, and a pastor who conducted the memorial service.

"My brother said he was in high school when Dora came into our lives and she was the reason why he joined the military. His wife also said it was an honor to have met Dora who her husband talks about so much and all she can say is thank you Dora," said Jennifer Ada.

She also thanked her uncle Ben and Auntie June for attending the service. "Uncle Ben and auntie June said they don't know

how it feels to lose a child but it was a pleasure to have spent so much time with Dora that they treat her like their own daughter. Mostly their words was that they all loved Dora and her inspiration to all is to enjoy life because Dora was full of life. No matter what condition she was in she always puts a smile and made life full of love and smiles. Uncle Ben said if he could give Dora her legs he would so that she would be able to walk and move just one last time."

Jennifer Ada also extended her gratitude to everyone who supported their family financially and emotionally.

"Please accept my family and my appreciation for all you have done for my little girl. May she rest in peace and we shall remember all the love and support you all have given her. You all have given her the strength to be the little girl who all have been touched by. I also want to thank the Liberation Queen who gave her crown to my little girl so she would be the princess that she deserves to be. I thank everyone that was part of my little girl's life. She has made a big family and new friends. I will always remember the good memories and the best adventure we all have gone through during her fight for survival." (Mark Rabago)

FBI: Woman actually set herself on fire

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Evelyn Duenas Cangco told authorities in March that a man set her on fire in San Antonio. The Federal Bureau of Investigation later found out that she actually burned herself.

The U. S. government charged the 48-year-old Cangco in federal court yesterday with giving a false statement to the FBI.

Assistant U.S. attorney Rami S. Badawy stated in court papers that during a criminal wit-

ness tampering investigation on April 2, 2013, Cangco told FBI special agents that she had just exited the San Antonio Market on March 26, 2013, and was getting into her vehicle that was parked in front of the store when an unknown Chinese man pushed her.

Cangco stated that the man then doused her back with gasoline before lighting her on fire with a cigarette lighter.

"The statements and representations were false because, as defendant Evelyn Duenas

Cangco then and there knew, she had in fact doused herself with gasoline and lit herself on fire," Badawy said.

According to police investigation, employees of San Antonio Market extinguished the fire on Cangco as well as on her vehicle.

Police at that time said that Cangco was admitted to the Commonwealth Health Center for second-degree burns on both hands and her entire back.

Police said patrol officers were dispatched at 9:09pm to

a reported vehicle on fire at the San Antonio Market. Fire rescue and medics also responded to the scene.

Preliminary investigation conducted by patrol officer Myron Laniyo showed that Cangco ran into the store, screaming for help.

Store employees said the victim had no shirt on and was only wearing a bra and that her pants were on fire. The employees immediately extinguished the flames and called 911 for police assistance.

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New law disallows governor's 30-day temp appointments

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

On his first day as the CNMI's acting governor, Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) swore in yesterday morning a reappointed member of the Board of Parole and signed into law hours later a Senate bill prohibiting the gov-

ernor from making unlimited 30-day temporary appointments for those that need legislative confirmation.

At 34, Torres is so far the CNMI's youngest acting governor.

Torres, the current Senate president, became acting governor when Gov. Eloy S. Inos

left Thursday for a two-day regional security roundtable in Guam and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider remains off island on personal leave.

Inos is expected to return later today.

Torres told *Saipan Tribune* that he is thankful for the governor and lieutenant governor

for giving him the opportunity to serve as acting governor even for a short period of time.

"The trust they gave for me to serve as acting governor is a great honor, and it's a great honor to serve the CNMI in this capacity," he said.

The acting governor signed Senate Bill 18-12, House Draft

1 into Public Law 18-17 yesterday afternoon, in the presence of the bill's author, Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan).

Under the new law, appointments to positions that require legislative advice and consent need to be submitted to the appropriate presiding officer within 30 days following the date the person was appointed or assumed the position, even in an acting capacity, due to the position becoming vacant for any reason.

"If the appointment is not submitted to the presiding officers within the 30-day period, the appointment shall automatically terminate, the position shall become vacant, and the person shall not be reappointed for the same position," PL 18-17 says.

Reyes said the new law makes it "crystal clear" that unlimited 30-day appointments of acting or temporary agency heads is not allowed.

Reyes said this will avoid the repeat of situations in the Office of the Attorney General and other agencies such as departments of Public Lands, Public Safety, and Public Works wherein the temporary agency heads served for unlimited 30-day periods, among other things.

If this is allowed to continue, it will send the CNMI back to the *Demapan v. Kara* case, he said. That case alleged that the acting attorney general for the

CNMI was holding her position illegally and in violation of the NMI Constitution.

The court, in reviewing the case, said "the governor does not have the authority to appoint any person as interim attorney general for periods of 30 days or less. Rather, the governor's sole authority to appoint an attorney general derives from Article III 11."

Torres said the new law reinforces the system of check and balance among government branches.

Yesterday morning, Torres administered the oath of office for Jose C. Camacho, on his reappointment to the Board of Parole.

Torres reiterated that his priority is to help the Inos administration to address pressing issues facing the CNMI such as prolonging the NMI Retirement Fund's lifespan.

Inos earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that Torres is among those he is considering as his running mate—or his lieutenant governor candidate—in the 2014 elections.

Torres said he is also working on "reunifying" the Republican Party, whose previous members include Inos of the Covenant Party and many others who now call themselves either as independents or Independent-Republicans.

Torres is inviting Inos to "come back to the Republican Party."

HEALTH

From Page 1

The study points to the emergence of a competitive market, said lead author Caroline Pearson, a vice president of the private data analysis firm. But it's a market with big price differences among age groups, states and even within states. A copy was provided to The Associated Press.

The bottom line is mixed: Many consumers will like their new options, particularly if they qualify for a tax credit. But others may have to stretch to afford coverage.

"We are seeing competitive offerings in every market if you buy toward the low end of what's available," said Pearson, a vice president of Avalere.

However, for uninsured people who are paying nothing today "this is still a big cost that they're expected to fit into their budgets," Pearson added.

The Obama administration didn't challenge the study, but Health and Human Services spokeswoman Joanne Peters said consumers will have options that are cheaper than the averages presented. "We're consistently seeing

that premiums will be lower than expected," she added. "For the many people that qualify for a tax credit, the cost will be even lower."

With insurance marketplaces just weeks away from opening, the Avalere study crunched the numbers on premiums filed by insurers in 11 states and Washington, DC.

Eight of them are planning to run their own insurance markets, while the federal government will run the operation in the remaining four. There were no significant differences in premiums between states running their own markets and federal ones.

The states analyzed were California, Connecticut, Indiana, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia and Washington. No data on premiums were publicly available for Texas and Florida—together they are home to more than 10 million of the nation's nearly 50 million uninsured people—and keys to the law's success.

However, Pearson said she's confident the premiums in the study will be "quite representative" of other states, because clear pricing patterns emerged. Official data for most other

states isn't expected until close to the Oct. 1 deadline for the new markets.

The study looked at premiums for non-smoking 21-year-olds, 40-year-olds and 60-year-olds in each of the 11 states and the District of Columbia.

It compared four levels of plans available under Obama's law: bronze, silver, gold and platinum. Bronze plans will cover 60 percent of expected medical costs; silver plans will cover 70 percent; gold will cover 80 percent, and platinum 90 percent.

All plans cover the same benefits, but bronze features the lowest premiums, paired with higher deductibles and copays. Platinum plans would have the lowest out-of-pocket costs and the highest premiums.

Mid-range silver plans are considered the benchmark, because the tax credits will be keyed to the cost of the second-lowest-cost silver plan in a local area.

The average premium for a silver plan ranged from a low of \$203 a month for a 21-year-old in Maryland to a high of \$764 for a 60-year-old in Connecticut.

The silver plan premiums for 40-year-olds were roughly \$75 a month higher than for 21-year-olds across the states. But the

price jumped for 60-year-olds. The health law allows insurers to charge older adults up to three times more than younger ones. That's less of a spread than in most states now, but it could still be a shock.

"It's striking that the curve increases quite dramatically above age 40," said Pearson. "As you get older and approach Medicare age, your expected health costs start to rise pretty quickly."

But older consumers could also be the biggest beneficiaries of the tax credits, because they work by limiting what you pay for health insurance to a given percentage of your income.

For example, an individual making \$23,000 would pay no more than 6.3 percent of their annual income—\$1,450—for a benchmark silver plan.

That help tapers off for those with solid middle-class incomes, above \$30,000 for an individual and \$60,000 for a family of four.

The study also found some striking price differences within certain states, generally larger ones. In New York, with 16 insurers participating, the difference between the cheapest and priciest silver premium was \$418.

wastewater services.

Oil markets

According to Fletcher, the world oil markets are a concern for CUC. He said recent changes in oil prices and threats of heightened unrest in the Middle East have industry analysts suggesting that oil prices may again spike.

CUC's fuel charge, which includes the power LEAC (levelized energy adjustment charge), water and wastewater electric charges, are directly tied to world markets and account for 65 percent of costs for operating power, water, and wastewater systems.

As CUC evaluates oil pricing and the other challenges, he said the primary concern is the cost of power to consumers. While there are many causes for high rates, the primary factors include but are not limited to: diesel fuel power generation; volatility of prices in the oil markets; serving disconnected island communities; a dilapidated power generation and distribution infrastructure due to a lack of reinvestment over time; and years of poor financial performance, including rates that have not recovered the cost of service.

CUC

From Page 1

become a modern sustainable utility and planning for the future is of critical importance," he said.

It was disclosed that since 2010, grants received by the agency for engine repairs and efficiency-related improvements, rehabilitated wastewater treatment plants, and improved drinking water systems have totaled more than \$57 million. These funds were from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, Department of Energy, U.S. Public Health Service, and the CNMI Department of Energy.

According to Fletcher, in order to develop the best solution for the CNMI utility situation, CUC will be completing a series of plans and proposals designed to determine what base-load generation and renewable energy opportunities are commercially available and cost-effective.

"As many are aware, the CNMI is approached numerous times each year by sales teams claiming to have developed the

ultimate energy solution for the CNMI. While many presentations appear feasible, CUC is committed to ensuring that the people of the CNMI do not invest in a system that fails to deliver reliable power or ends up costing more than promised," he said.

He assured that CUC remains committed to that goal and in providing the best service possible through solid planning, engineering, and sound financial practices.

CUC, he disclosed, has received a grant from the OIA under the "Empowering Insular Communities" program, for funding to conduct an Integrated Resource Plan, or IRP. The IRP will help determine the type, size, and location of commercially available base-load generation and renewable-energy projects that best fit CUC's systems and the CNMI's needs.

"The focus will be to provide the most cost-efficient new power source for consumers. CUC is working with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory on the design and ultimate procurement of the IRP," he said.

Fletcher pointed out that fuel costs account for the lion's share

of electric bills in the CNMI and converting to another source of base-load generation has the greatest potential for economic savings for consumers.

"The base-load analysis will help determine new energy sources to replace the current power generation system; however, objective rating criteria and thorough engineering and economic analysis on a proposal are paramount. Examples include determining if a new energy source is a proven technology, if operations and maintenance costs are readily known or determinable and the impact on rates to consumers over time—with the ultimate goal being to reduce the cost of energy in the power, water and wastewater utilities," he explained.

Following the power-generation collapse in 2008-2009, together with the requirements of the federal stipulated order, Fletcher said that CUC has been working diligently to overhaul the utility by stabilizing finances, replacing dilapidated equipment, and installing new infrastructure.

CUC's customers, Fletcher said, have seen the successful results of these efforts in more reliable power, water, and

12-MEMBER

From Page 1

house, Leon Guerrero's initiative will be presented to voters in the next general elections, which will be in 2014.

At least \$2.1 million in salaries and operational accounts alone will be saved every year by reducing the number of lawmakers by 17.

But the actual savings just in terms of indirect costs could easily exceed this figure 10 times and could be used to save the NMI Retirement Fund and address other critical needs, Leon Guerrero said.

CNMI-wide, there is one legislator for every 1,827 people.

Guam, in comparison, has one legislator for every 10,000 people.

The CNMI has 53,000 people with 29 lawmakers, while Guam has 160,000 people represented by 15 senators elected islandwide.

The CNMI has a bicameral Legislature—a 20-member House of Representatives and a nine-member Senate, while Guam has a unicameral Legislature—a 15-member Guam Senate.

Conversion to a unicameral legislature rests with CNMI voters. But that is only after members of the current 18th Legislature give the initiative a chance.

Leon Guerrero said if majority of CNMI voters ratify the initiative, then that will be sufficient justification for the U.S. Congress

to amend Section 203(c) of the Covenant "to reflect the decision of the people to convert to a unicameral legislature."

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) will then have to introduce legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives to "effectuate the will of the electorate," Leon Guerrero said.

His legislative initiative seeks to amend Article 2 of the NMI Constitution by amending Section 1, repealing Section 3 and amending Section 4 to add a new subsection (c) to establish a unicameral legislature by eliminating the CNMI House of Representatives and enlarging the Senate from nine to 12.

The term of each CNMI-wide senator will be four years, the same as the current term of senators under a bicameral system.

"The resulting political entity will be substantially more efficient and still capable of fulfilling its constitutional duties to represent the interest of all of the CNMI's people," the yet-to-be prefled initiative states in its findings.

Leon Guerrero, chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations, said he is inviting his colleagues to co-sponsor the legislative initiative.

The lawmaker was initially crafting an initiative seeking to ask voters whether they want to cut the number of lawmakers from 29 to 18 and a longer term for House members from two to four to help shrink the CNMI government's size.

So far, no one has opted out from Fund settlement yet

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

With just two weeks to decide whether or not they want to be part of the settlement agreement between the government and the Retirement Fund, no one has yet asked the pension agency to remove their name from the case's list.

Acting NMI Retirement Fund administrator Lillian Pangelinan disclosed this to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, saying that members have until next week to submit their "opt-out" applications.

"So far, we have not received any opt out submissions," she said.

The deadline to opt out is on or before 5pm on Sept. 20, a Friday.

Records obtained from the Fund indicate that there are a total of 3,160 retirees and beneficiaries on three islands. Of this number, retirees total

2,395; surviving spouses number 591; and surviving children total 174.

The bulk is from Saipan, which has a total of 2,081. Of that number, Pangelinan said that 1,565 are retirees and 396 are surviving spouses who continue to receive benefits from the pension plan. This is in addition to 120 surviving children.

On Rota, beneficiaries total 264, of which 216 are retirees, 37 are surviving spouses, and 11 are surviving children of members. Tinian, meantime, has 192 beneficiaries, of which 148 are retirees, 35 are surviving spouses, and nine are surviving children of members.

Pangelinan said the Fund also distributes benefits to "overseas" beneficiaries totaling 623. Of this number, 466 are retirees, 123 are surviving spouses, and 34 are surviving children of beneficiaries.

Any class member who

timely requests for exclusion, or opt out from settlement case, shall not be a member of the settlement class and will not be entitled to any benefits from the settlement fund.

In the event many members choose to opt out from the settlement case, it is predicted that there will be no final settlement and many retirees and beneficiaries will get nothing from the Fund.

The final settlement order is expected to be rendered soon after the Sept. 30 hearing at the federal court.

The main goal of the settlement deal is to ensure that retirees who are in the class will receive at least 75 percent of their benefits in the future and to allow the CNMI to let

members of the Fund who are not yet receiving benefits to withdraw from the Fund and retrieve their contributions. The deal will also provide a mechanism for retirees who are class members to enforce their rights under the settlement in federal court.

Meantime, the Inos' administration welcomed the good news that no has so far opted out from the settlement. Press secretary Angel Demapan credited the series of townhall meetings held by Gov. Eloy Inos as a factor in convincing members to stay with the Fund.

"This is certainly good news as the administration made significant efforts to conduct public outreach to discuss the

terms of the settlement agreement. The administration maintains that at this point, the settlement is the best deal for all the parties involved. The terms provide certainty to the members of the class," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

He added that the government remains committed to seeking new funding sources and to restoring the reduction once such funds become available.

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NMC set to implement new version of GED in January

»Students urged to pass current test to avoid repeat of all exams

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College, through its Adult Basic Education program, will implement a new high school equivalency test starting January next year, with the current version of the General Education Development test nearing its expiration at the end of this year.

The current version, known as the 2002 Series GED test, will be replaced with a new high school equivalency test on Jan. 2, 2014. Specifically, the current five-part test will be replaced with a four-part test. Each part can be taken separately but students must pass all sections to receive their GED diploma.

According to ABE director Lorraine Cabrera, students who have taken the paper-based GED test (2002 Series) but did not pass all parts have until Dec. 13, 2013, to pass them.

"Otherwise, they will need to start over again in 2014 with the new computer-based GED test in order to receive their high school credential," said Cabrera.

Also, beginning Sept. 1, 2013, first-time test takers must take the computer-based GED National test, which costs \$24. The deadline for first-time testers to begin the 2002 test series is Nov. 30 and the last official testing date

for the test is Dec. 14.

She said the test is not available online and must be taken at official testing centers, and most of those are closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Cabrera disclosed that ongoing GED test-takers must finish and pass before the current test expires. The ABE State Office is ready to assist adult learners prepare to take the GED National Tests that they still need to pass. Interested test-takers can find more information at finishtheGED.com and can contact the ABE State Office at NMC by calling 237-6713.

The ABE program at NMC has three components: adult basic education, English as a second language, and adult secondary education. Based on NMC records, nearly 3,000 students have enrolled and availed of the services of the ABE program in the last five years.

ABE is for individuals seeking literacy according to basic levels. ESL is for those with limited English proficiency according to six levels; and ASE is for individuals seeking to earn a high school diploma either through GED (general educational development diploma), or the ASE (the adult school) program.

Federal grants fund the operation of the ABE program in the CNMI.

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Buckingham's motion to dismiss charges denied

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo has denied former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham's motion to dismiss the criminal charges filed against him.

In an order on Wednesday, Govendo ruled that the court has personal and subject matter jurisdiction over Buckingham and the case.

The judge noted that the CNMI Supreme Court recently recognized that an assistant attorney general cannot prosecute the attorney general or governor.

Govendo said that if the Office of the Attorney General cannot prosecute the attorney general or the governor, then the Legislature is free to delegate that authority to the Office of the Public Auditor without infringing upon the power vested in the OAG.

OPA filed criminal charges against Buckingham in connection with an alleged violation of election laws and illegal award of a sole-source contract,

among others.

Buckingham, through counsel Brien Sers Nicholas, asked the court to dismiss the case for lack of personal and subject matter jurisdiction. OPA legal counsel and designated special prosecutor George Hasselback argued for the government.



Buckingham

In his order, Govendo said that Buckingham correctly argues that the original summons issued to him was invalid. The summons issued to Buckingham on Aug. 3, 2012, was not signed by a judge, making it invalid. However, Govendo said, the issue is already moot. The judge pointed out that Buckingham was brought before the court on May 28, 2013.

Nicholas argued that Buckingham's appearance before the court was insufficient to allow the court to exercise personal jurisdiction.

Govendo disagreed.

"Once a criminal defendant is present within the Commonwealth, the court may exercise jurisdiction over his person," said Govendo, citing case laws.

In this case, he said, Buckingham was brought before the court and therefore the court has personal jurisdiction over him.

On the second issue, Nicholas argued that the prosecution of this case by Hasselback deprives the court of subject matter jurisdiction.

Govendo said the Legislature has assigned the OPA a wide range of additional powers and duties over the years.

For example, Govendo said, OPA is mandated to "specifically act to prevent and detect fraud, waste and abuse in the collection and expenditure of all public funds."

The judge said OPA has the authority to investigate and prosecute the AG and the governor for violations of Commonwealth law.

In the Commonwealth, Govendo said, the OPA serves as a "sentinel against government malfeasance."

Groups to commemorate 9-11 attacks

The U.S. Pinoy for Good Governance Marianas Chapter, Association of Filipino Pastors, and El Shaddai Charismatic Group on Saipan will commemorate the 12th anniversary of the 9-11 attacks next Wednesday at the American Memorial Park.

USP4GG Marianas Chapter chair Dr. Celia Lamkin said the event is being held to "honor and pay tribute to those who lost their lives on this tragic day and to honor the survivors and the victims' families and the bravery of those who responded to the attack."

The event will be from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the AMP auditorium.

Lamkin said the program will include a message from USP4GG national chair Loida Nicolas Lewis. A video presentation about the Sept. 11 attacks will also be played.

There will be also community events such as health screening and outreach to the youth, among others, as part of the National Day of Service for the month of September.

Lamkin said that Saipan residents will also be joining Americans across

the United States in volunteering for the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance.

Sept. 11 was designated a National Day of Service by the 2009 Kennedy Serve America Act.

"For many Americans it is also a day of service that provides an opportunity to join neighbors and local leaders to rekindle the compassion and unity shown on that day," said Lamkin.

According to CNCS, this year's projects will enlist volunteers in delivering meals, refurbishing schools and community centers, collecting food and clothing, signing up as mentors, reading to children, and more.

The CNCS is a federal agency that engages more than five million Americans in service each year through Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and other programs. It improves communities through the Social Innovation Fund and leads President Obama's call to service initiative, United We Serve.

For more information, call Lamkin at 288-1714 or email her at celia.lamkin@yahoo.com. (Saipan Tribune)

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TF created to address backlog of bench warrants

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero announced yesterday the creation of a task force to address the backlog of outstanding bench warrants and also to assist the Judiciary in serving summonses.

Aside from DPS, Deleon Guerrero said the other members of the task force are the Marshal Service Division, Office of Adult Probation, and the Office of the Attorney General.

In a news briefing in his office, Deleon Guerrero said the task force is giving notice to those with pending bench warrants to voluntarily come to the

Marshal Service Division in the courthouse in Susupe and comply with their obligations.

He encouraged people to contact the Marshal Office or the Clerk of Court to verify if they have any outstanding bench warrants.

After 60 days, the task force will publicly issue the names of those with outstanding bench warrants and will begin executing the warrants.

Chief probation officer Ursula Lifofoi-Aldan said that as of yesterday, there are at least 190 outstanding bench warrants—145 for traffic cases, 31 for criminal cases, four for small claims, nine for civil cases, and one for a juvenile case.

Lifofoi-Aldan said there are actually more than 190 as they

are still in the process of checking all their records. According to the Marshal Service Division, an average of 25 bench warrants are issued each day.

Court sources disclosed that outstanding bench warrants actually number more than 2,000, mostly traffic cases.

Deleon Guerrero said the task force is designed to enforce any and all bench warrants that have been in court dockets for quite sometime as well as to assist the Judiciary in serving pending summonses.

The commissioner said they are in the early stages of organizing this task force so they urge the community to voluntarily contact the courts to clear their obligations with respect to bench warrants.

"We want to give the community the opportunity or chance to come in to quash their pending bench warrants," he said.

Under the task force, two police officers and two marshals will be assigned to execute the bench warrants.

Deleon Guerrero said he is

planning to reactivate the DPS Summons Unit that was dissolved either in 2008 or 2009 because the department at that time believed that serving bench warrants was the duty of marshals.

Lifofoi-Aldan noted that Public Law 17-41 mandates the Marshal Service Division and DPS to jointly enforce "all process in any criminal proceeding, contempt proceeding, or in a juvenile delinquency proceeding, issued in accordance with law and the rules of procedure prescribed in accordance with law."

These process services may be in the form of any warrants or outstanding bench warrants, jury summons, jurors summoned from bystanders, and

outstanding bench warrants in civil, small claims, family, or criminal courts.

Ed Cabrera of the Office of the Attorney General's Investigation Division said there could be instances where bench warrants are issued as a result of criminal acts and the defendants may not appear in court at their hearing date.

"The reason why we want to get involved in this is simply the fact that we want to make sure that these cases will go forward and the only way to go forward is to actually arrest the folks who don't attend the hearing so that we can bring them back in the system and get them through the judicial system," Cabrera said.

Quichocho sues Wiseman's wife

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Attorney Ramon K. Quichocho is suing the wife of Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman for an alleged fraudulent scheme over a Xerox lease agreement.

Quichocho, who is representing himself, is suing Faythe Wiseman for intentional misrepresentation.

The lawyer wants Faythe Wiseman to pay him an unspecified amount of damages, attorney's fees, court costs, and interest.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from Faythe Wiseman yesterday but no one answered her phone. Judge Wiseman was off-island yesterday.

Quichocho stated in his complaint that his law office entered into an agreement with Xerox in November 2011 to lease a printer for 60 months.

Quichocho said that Faythe Wiseman represented that both PC and Mac computers can print directly to the printer and that he will be able to print from a USB.

The printer was delivered to the law office in Gualo Rai on Dec. 13, 2011.

Quichocho said he found out, however, that he could not print directly from his Mac computer and that the USB port for printing was not installed.

When he inquired about the missing features, Faythe Wiseman allegedly promised to rectify the problem. He said Faythe Wiseman explained that the printer needed an additional software called Postscript in order to print from a Mac computer and that she will order and include such Postscript by January 2012.

Quichocho said that on Jan. 4, 2012, and again on Jan. 14, 2012, he followed up on the Postscript, but the defendant failed to respond whatsoever.

Quichocho said he later learned that Faythe Wiseman had retired from Xerox in De-

cember 2011.

When his office tried to resolve the Postscript issue with Xerox, he said he was informed that it will cost over \$700 to install Postscript.

The lawyer said he was forced to obtain a PC computer, network the PC and the Mac, and transfer files between the computers in order for him to be able to print, "which is very inconvenient and time-consuming."

Quichocho said that Faythe Wiseman "carried out a fraudulent scheme" in which she made those misrepresentations.

On Tuesday, Quichocho also filed a lawsuit against Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo for the latter's comments that resulted in the CNMI Supreme Court publicly censuring and sanctioning him in 2010. Landowner Joaquin K. Atalig joined as Quichocho's co-plaintiff in the suit that they said is a taxpayers' complaint.

Quichocho had also moved to disqualify Govendo from presiding over a group of investors' lawsuit against himself (Quichocho) and Atalig.

Quichocho said the Govendo must disqualify himself from the lawsuit because his "impartiality might reasonably be questioned" considering that the judge is now a defendant in his lawsuit.

In the investors' lawsuit against Quichocho, there is a pending motion filed by attorney Stephen Nutting on behalf of the investors, seeking to hold Quichocho in contempt for allegedly making slanderous, false, and unethical attacks against Govendo.

In May 2013, Govendo ruled that Quichocho induced landowner Atalig to violate public policy by filing false documents with the Commonwealth Recorder's Office. When the ruling was issued, Quichocho had just been nominated to become a judge. The governor subsequently withdrew the administration's nomination of Quichocho.

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Cultural activities continue; ukulele lessons on Sept. 12

The school year 2013-2014 is already in full swing but the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will continue with its slew of programs.

This Saturday, JKPL will have as special guest Nicole Schafer of the Coastal Resources Management, according to Children's Library associate Erlinda Naputi.

Schafer, who is the CRI Education and Outreach Coordinator at CRM, will be reading a book called *This is the Sea that Feeds Us* in the Children's Library's Read-Aloud segment.

Like previous weeks, participating kids will also have bead-making and *mwar*-making lessons, depending on the availability of materials.

The cultural activities at the library runs from 12pm to 2pm every Saturday, in partnership with the CNMI Humanities Motherhead Program through a Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Community Service Block Grant.

Naputi also reminded everyone interested in signing up for JKPL's ukulele class that classes will start on Sept. 12, from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. Classes will be held every Thursday thereafter from 4:30pm to 5:30 until Oct. 31.

The ukulele class will be conducted by Larry Lee and costs \$50. It is open to children 8 years or older and adults and encompasses eight hours.

Students who passed the second level of Lee's previous ukulele class will be able to register for the intermediate class, while new students or those who want to refresh their ukulele skills can register for the beginners' class.

Naputi said the ukulele class' minimum enrollment is 15 students but it can accommodate as much as 40 students. Registration is on a first-come, first-paid basis and deadline is on Sept. 11.

Students must provide their own ukuleles and a folder to hold music sheets (plastic sheet protectors and a three-ring binder are recommended). Those without instruments can also borrow one from the library, free of charge.

Parents and guardians must also fill a liability waiver form on behalf of their participating children and must adhere with public library policies and procedures.

For more information about JKPL's cultural activities every Saturday and the 2013 summer ukulele class, visit the CNMI's state library on Saipan during its regular hours, Tuesday to Friday, from 10am to 6pm, and Saturday from 9am to 4 pm. The library is closed on Sunday, Monday, and holidays. Call the library at 235-7316 or 7322 or visit its website at www.cnmilibrary.com. (Saipan Tribune)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

September 6, 2005

Will today mark end of rolling blackouts?

Gov. Juan N. Babauta's word on ending rotating blackouts will be tested today. Two weeks ago, the governor promised that a broken 13-megawatt engine at Power Plant 1 would be fixed by today, Sept. 6, 2005. Despite the delayed delivery of needed materials and the onslaught of a typhoon, it appears that the repair of Engine No. 8 has been completed on time. "Everything has been done on schedule. We are confident that the engine will be back in service by Tuesday," said Pamela Mathis, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation special adviser for corporate communications.

Head Start faces classroom shortage

The Head Start Program in the CNMI is currently facing a classroom shortage due to the program's lack of permanent spaces for classrooms, according to its local director. Head Start director Jean Samari told the Board of Education last week during its regular monthly meeting that the biggest challenge she now faces is finding permanent "appropriate" spaces for classrooms in the villages where schoolchildren reside. "Without this we have a very hard time keeping our funded enrollment as many families have transportation problems," Samari said. At present, children in San Vicente and Dandan who are enrolled in the program attend the Chalan Kanoa Head Start, she said, adding that there are also some children in Garapan who attend Head Start centers on Capitol Hill and in Tanapag.

September 6, 2006

17, including 5 juveniles, fall in weekend operation

The Department of Public Safety conducted over the weekend its biggest roundup this year, with the arrest of 17 persons, including five juveniles, all allegedly involved in burglary and theft cases on Saipan. Acting DPS commissioner Rebecca Warfield, in an interview with the Saipan Tribune yesterday, commended the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau detectives for their hard work that resulted in the arrest of the suspects. Warfield said such hard work embodies DPS' mission of "one department, one force." "They are doing their job to make our community safe. I applaud them," said Warfield as she also expressed appreciation to other agencies that participated in the crackdown.

21 new animals at Saipan Zoo

Meet Tasha the Tiger, Lambert the Lion, Ozzie the Leopard, and Booboo the Black Bear at the Saipan Zoo in As Mahetog. These are just four of the 21 exotic animals that have been recently added to the island menagerie, giving residents and tourists many new reasons to visit or revisit the only zoo in the CNMI. Aside from the four, there's Liberty and Oppie the monkeys, Jinga the genet, Shadow and Timber the foxes and Bobbie the bobcat. Other new set of animals includes kinkajous from the raccoon family, parrots, cockatoos, owls, a vulture, a hawk, emus, iguanas, coatimundi and Servat cats. Zoo owner Frank Aldan told the media yesterday that the addition of these animals to the local zoo is good news for the CNMI community.

September 6, 2007

Cohen calls for mutual respect in debate over federalization

A ranking U.S. official has appealed for mutual respect in the debate over the proposed federalization of local immigration. David B. Cohen, the U.S. Interior Department's deputy assistant secretary for insular affairs, said he understood that people are anxious about the future of the Commonwealth. However, anxiety should not lead to misdirected anger, he added. Cohen's statement came amid tension over a proposal to grant permanent status to long-term guest workers in the CNMI. Cohen, who has openly endorsed the plan, has himself been subject to political and sometimes personal attacks by critics.

Govendo allows temporary release of suspected illegal casino operator

The Superior Court yesterday allowed the temporary release of a businessman who was arrested on charges he was one of the operators of an illegal casino operation after he posted a property bond. Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo granted attorney Antonio M. Atalig's request to modify the \$25,000 cash bail that the court had earlier imposed on defendant Hideo Kato. Govendo accepted Atalig's motion to temporarily release Kato to former Senate president Juan S. Demapan who will serve as third party custodian.

MCS HOLDS STUDENT LEADERSHIP RETREAT

‘Leadership is not just about knowing but also caring’

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

While most teenagers slept in last Saturday, student leaders at Mount Carmel School got up bright and early to participate in the school's Student Leadership Retreat. Held every year, the activity helps students grow as leaders and gives them the opportunity to work together to plan all school activities for the school year.

School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero facilitated the retreat on Aug. 31, starting it with a prayer and an energizer, followed by a short talk about leadership.

In his speech, Deleon Guerrero shared what he has learned over the years from various leadership positions, including serving as a member of both the Public School System's Board of Education and the Northern Marianas College's Board of Regents.

"The best lesson I've learned about leadership is that people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care, which is why you should care about all the people you lead, not just your friends," he said, adding that he also "pay attention to the details, but always

Complaint filed in joint probe of sex offenses involving children

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, together with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of the Attorney General, and Department of Public Safety announced yesterday the filing of a federal charge stemming from a joint investigation of sex offenses involving children.

Raymond Borja Roberto, acting director of the CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife, was charged with coercion and enticement. A conviction carries a statutory minimum of at least 10 years and a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

Limtiaco stated that this prosecution is part of the U.S. Department of Justice's Project Safe Childhood initiative, a nationwide initiative to protect children from sexual predators.

The investigation originated with DPS and was investigated jointly by the Criminal Bureau of Investigations and the FBI. The case is being prosecuted by assistant attorneys general Rami Badawy and Ross Naughton.

The charge is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. (USAO)

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School student leaders discuss plans for the new school year.

focus on the bigger picture and inspire your team with a compelling, passionate vision about where your team is heading."

Taking Deleon Guerrero's cue, student clubs and organizations each developed vision statements for the school year and took turns sharing their vision with the entire group.

Students then watched a video clip of Nick Selby's welcome speech at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Selby's speech has gone viral for its passionate appeal to students, its call for students "to do the impossible," and its use of music from the film *2001: A Space Odyssey* as his soundtrack.

The Mount Carmel students were so inspired by the video that they stood up to applaud when it ended.

After the Selby video and a short break, student leaders and their teacher advisers got down to work, planning out the entire school year. Going through week by week, Student Council officers invited clubs, classes, and organizations to come forward with their activity proposals. Whenever conflicts emerged, students worked out alternatives and solutions. By the end of the retreat, student leaders had successfully planned out the entire year, right up to graduation in June.

Student Council president Ginny Wu was pleased with the results of the retreat.

"It was pretty productive. I can tell it's going to be a busy year," she said. She also acknowledged the shift to more community service. "The students seem to be getting more involved with community service."



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

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A visitors' center worthy of the marine monument

By ANGELO VILLAGOMEZ
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

As one of the framers of our Constitution, my father knew the value of our natural resources to our culture and argued for permanent protections for Mañagaha, and the three northernmost islands of Asuncion, Maug, and Uracas. He taught me that it is the responsibility of every indigenous person to ensure that these islands are passed down to the next generation in the same condition in which they were passed down to us.

That's why I worked so hard alongside The Friends of the Monument and The Pew Charitable Trusts to help create the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument.

It is an indisputable fact that the people of the Northern Marianas support environmental protection and it is no wonder that there was such a tidal wave of support for the creation of the Marianas Trench Monument.

When the monument was declared on Jan. 6, 2009, then governor Benigno R. Fitial, then Senate president Pete P. Reyes, and then House speaker Arnold Palacios led in celebration 6,000 local residents, 500 students, and 206 businesses. As I recall, Governor Fitial was so elated he hugged President George W. Bush right after the signing.

In a letter to the editor, former representative Cinta M. Kaipat wrote that the goals of the monument were to "create federally funded local jobs, give a needed boost to our struggling tourism industry, bring positive worldwide attention to our shores, and most importantly, protect three of our islands and their surrounding waters for generations to come." (*Saipan Tribune*, May 1, 2008)

Much has been accomplished toward achieving these goals. In the last five years there has been positive media attention for the islands, renewed interest in scientific exploration of the area, and a federally funded office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration opened in Garapan. But work still needs to be done. Everyone must come together to move ahead with creating the visitor center and bringing to fruition the economic promise of this impressive marine reserve.

In 2009, the same year the monument was declared, Delegate Gregorio Sablan earmarked \$220,000 in the fiscal year 2010 Consolidated Appropriation Act (HR 3288) for the design of our visitor center. It was a proud moment. Our first representative in the U.S. Congress passed one of his first bills.

The Friends and Pew worked with the delegate's office and with NOAA, the recipient of the funding, to draft a grant to the CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources to "develop a process for engaging input from the public to create a visitor and education center that will incorporate our existing marine protected areas and the new Marianas Trench National Monument." (*Delegate Sablan, letter to DLNR Secretary Ignacio Dela Cruz, Dec. 30, 2009*)

The plan was to develop an architectural blueprint so that Delegate Sablan, along with the Friends and Pew, could ask Congress to fund the construction. Although progress stalled at the local level, today we have a new governor, a new DLNR secretary, and from what I understand from media reports, soon we'll have a new architectural plan for a monument visitor center. This is excellent news, and everyone who had a hand in its completion deserves congratulations.

Soon it will be time to take the plan to Washington, and I know the Friends, Pew and our elected officials will do all they can to help. But there is no guarantee that federal funding will be available. In the meantime, the Friends continue to work with the community on outreach and education. Pew has supported these efforts and continues to engage with CNMI leaders at the Association of Pacific

See MONUMENT on Next Page



Wrestling with hangover

Indeed, it is literally dizzying the poor financial posture of the NMI heading down the path of bankruptcy. Such condition forces economic contraction rather than expansion. It doesn't bode well for families struggling to endure the deepening pain of economic misery.

Economic contraction seems to be the trophy upon which we have placed our life at the feet of equally disoriented elected and appointed officials. Perhaps the fiscal paralysis is mired in history. I call it the "hangover," the last scapegoat I've found and promise not to search for more waffled excuses.

There's our experience from 1944 to 1977 with heavy shadows of colonialism that included parting with tradition as we embraced what we viewed then as the new way of doing things. It slowly drained our people of a once powerful sense of personal industry in favor of government jobs. Most had no inkling then that the money they've received came from the backbreaking sacrifices of taxpayers in the U.S. mainland.

Although we eventually moved into "self-government," there remain relics of another layer of colonialism gift-wrapped in "paternalism." The dual cover seemed to have inculcated the mindset that Uncle Sam would always be around to show us what to do even in times of self-inflicted crisis. Slowly, however, we learned that, after grant funds, the balance of our needs must be met from locally generated revenues.

In fact, it was in 1993 that we told the U.S. Congress at a budget hearing to discontinue grant funds earmarked for CNMI government operations. There was sufficient revenue to go it alone. Perhaps one could call it an accomplishment. Then, or perhaps we've spoken too early or prematurely. Anyway, we didn't have the normal evolution of economic progression like most successful economies. Ours is a piece of driftwood in the open ocean.

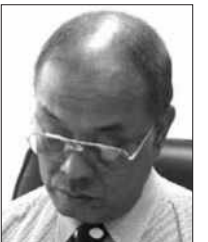
We didn't morph from colonialism to industrialization for we lacked natural resources to develop into items marketable at the global level. Thus the confusion on how to pitchfork the local economy beyond the tourism industry. Well, the term "economy" has even turned into an embarrassing humor and mouthwash by kids in grammar school.

Not ready to lambaste the feds for the mess at home. I'm equally wary how we've oiled its lack of commitment with our own set of negligence, complacency, and mediocrity. But there lurks in the back of our mind the notion of colonialism and paternalism that prompt questions like: Is the NMI doomed? Why have we failed understanding and mastering the institution of self-government? Are the heavy shadows of colonialism and paternalism such that we've built the belief of inferiority complex incapable of standing on our own feet?

This is where we are today. Having said my piece, what's your vision of the future of these isles? I trust we could exit triviality in

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



favor of essentials to move the needle forward.

Pummeled by mediocrity

With our fully honed sense of *mañana*, we skip real substantive issues, focusing on tedious matters like village sign replacements. Isn't this DPW's or Parks and Recreation's job? It seems a glorification of our inability to see "beyond the years." It's a humiliating tale of disconnect from what's significant or mundane.

Is it just bravado or the façade of politicians learning to harden the culture of bureaucracy where nothing moves, just to ensure their re-election? This would fatally cement the eventual fiscal death of the CNMI in the near term.

The budding filthy political culture is like an "infection that permeates from the top to bottom, kept growing beyond a certain point, made a perennial industry laggard, and ultimately leading down the path of self-inflicted demise. Yes, I've digested cautionary tales of the faults of a huge bureaucracy piled with negligence, complacency, and mediocrity.

"Every executive and business leader should abide because bureaucracy is so insidious, so prolific, it can happen almost anywhere. It initially masquerades as process and methodology, a safe buffer from the chaos of constant change and competition. But before you know it, it takes hold of your culture. And once that happens, it's very difficult to eradicate." As such, herein is born a huge government bureaucracy that instantly braces for its own interest over the multitude. It's called lack of accountability.

"That's why bureaucracies inevitably become more and more bloated and less and less efficient over time. It's why they're the bastions of dysfunctional organizational behavior that resists change, improvement, initiative, transparency, and anything remotely resembling accountability."

Have we reached this stage yet? Or have we been pummeled by the erosive tsunami of complacency, negligence, and mediocrity?

Opening of schools

Public schools opened this week. Opening day is one happy return to the classroom for most school kids.

See HANGOVER on Next Page

Here comes Comet ISON

Here's a heads up for a story that might capture the public fancy in a few weeks: Comet ISON is on the way.

Comets can be real crowd pleasers. They can also be royal disappointments.

So Comet ISON might be the "comet of the century." Or it might be a dud. Or it might be something in between.

Comet ISON has been zooming toward the sun from the spooky reaches of the outer solar system. By the end of November it will make its closest approach to the sun, though there's a risk it will fall apart at that point.

Comets are largely made of ice. When a comet is heated up by the sun, the comet can leave a very visible trail.

There will probably be more media coverage of Comet ISON as late October approaches, so there will be plenty of time to revisit the story if it gets legs and starts to interest the general public.

In the meantime, just to get the juices flowing, I'll note a few preliminaries for those who want to get a head start on the Comet ISON show.

For this month, September, the comet is so faint that it takes fairly serious effort and equipment to see it, so I'm going to skip that gig since it won't interest most folks.

But by October, it may be getting within binocular territory for people on Saipan.

I'm going to skip any detailed how-to-find instructions, since there will be time for that in the coming weeks. Today I'll just mention the big picture in big terms.

The good news is that for all of October, Comet ISON will be traveling very close to Mars.

Mars will be easy to find and it will be tracking through the constellation Leo, and by mid-October both Mars and Comet ISON will be within a couple of degrees of Regulus, which will make for quite a cozy trio. Regulus is the brightest star in Leo. I can't think of any other prominent stuff immediately around Regulus, so there's no cosmic clutter to confuse us.

As for the bad news, well, the part of the sky I'm talking about will be very low in the eastern sky, which isn't a good play from Saipan, given that most people live on the west side of the island.

Furthermore, we're talking about the time frame of about 4am to 5:30am (in very rough terms) for the viewable window, and the rising sun will blot out the view after that.

As for November, as Comet ISON is growing ever brighter, it will pass near the star Spica on Nov. 18 and then near Saturn five days later, according to Space.com. I guess if we want to be more precise we should adjust that Nov. 18 up to Nov. 19 to account for our side of the dateline, but it doesn't really matter.

What does matter is that November's gig, like October's, will be in the low eastern sky just before sunrise.

If the name "Comet ISON" is new to you, don't worry, you're in

HANGOVER

From Page 10

It's another year for dedicated teachers whose performance would be judged by the academic accomplishment of their students.

Admirable, though, the extra mile they take to ensure learning occurs and that their students move in tandem with everybody else.

What's the reward of teaching? Most teachers say it's the "satisfaction" in heart and soul watching students learn foundational courses that equip them for the next academic level ahead.

The board and commissioner are on top of issues affecting PSS, including the constant battle of budget cuts by legislators who play opossum. They obviously never placed the education of our children uppermost in their agenda. Of course, they all have perfectly rehearsed excuses.

Well, the school opening brought a sense of nostalgia where my grandchildren now tread. Let's support our children as they prepare for what lies ahead.

■ ■ ■

People have the right to "rational ignorance." It comes into play when we ignore the cost of gaining enough understanding of an issue to make an informed decision relating to it. This nascent attitude must go! Let's take charge of our destiny.

MONUMENT

From Page 10

Island Legislatures, Micronesia Chief Executive Summit, and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

The people of the Northern Mariana Islands should be proud of what we have accomplished. From the Micronesia Challenge, to the Marianas Trench Monument, and most recently our leadership in global shark conservation, the world is taking notice. Let's welcome them with a visitor center worthy of these efforts.

Angelo Villagomez is with The Pew Charitable Trusts in Washington, D.C.

good company. The comet is new to everyone. It was discovered less than a year ago, on Sept. 21, 2012, by two Russian amateur astronomers, Vitali Nevski and Artyom Novichonok.

The "ISON" term comes from the International Scientific Optical Network, and it was one of this organization's telescopes that was used for the discovery.

The famous Hubble telescope has turned its eye on Comet ISON and its photos are easy to find on the Web. The Web also has a lot of information on how to find the comet.

I haven't seen much hype (yet) in the general news about Comet ISON, but I'll admit that I don't pay much attention to the news. For its part, though, the astronomy press is already treating Comet ISON like a rock star, and some telescope manufactures are using the buzz to pitch their wares for comet-watching.

Hey, if it's time to cash in on the gig, maybe I could start some

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unintended consequences

The recent comments made by Gerald S.A. Perez on Article 12 were very clear and should be taken seriously by our CNMI people. If one understands what Mr. Perez was saying, one should conclude what is best for the CNMI and her people. A change in attitude toward our land and resources should follow if we want to move forward in this world.

Selfishness and protectionism do not work in this day and age. The world out there is diversifying into a global community where diversity and multiculturalism are being promoted. Gerald Perez was right: A protectionist attitude may have sound intentions but it also has negative unintended consequences that any community does not want. It does affect the economy of that particular community both in the short term or in the long run if not changed. How so? Well, look at us. Where are we at this point in time? Economically we are not well, but we can be in a better position if not for Article 12. Look at Guam. Yes, during the mid-to-late '90s, there was a mass exodus of roughly around 30,000 Guam residents, mostly Chamorro, after the U.S. military did a major downsizing associated with strong protests by activist against the military. The impact was

The rebels did it

Jack Keane, a retired general, says that the U.S. does not need to wait for an inspection to determine who recently used the chemical weapons that killed 130 innocent people, including children, in Syria. He says that Assad's regime did it, and he recommends that a U.S. battleship shoot a dozen Tomahawk missiles to destroy Syria's military capability.

I'm surprised that the retired general's analysis is found wanting. Does he think that Syria will take the U.S.'s action lying down like what Qaddafi did? Syria has a lot of missiles that can destroy a U.S. battleship. Russia has sworn that it would protect Syria against attacks by foreign countries.

The *Los Angeles Times'* editorial, which was printed in this newspaper on Aug. 26, 2013, says that if Syria was found to be the one using the chemical weapons, the U.S. should fire the first shot. But any attack by the U.S., France, and/or Great Britain can lead to a nuclear war with Russia. That may be the apocalypse that people have been fearful of.

With many anti-Syrian activists ready to lie to prove that Assad's regime used chemical weapons, it is likely that the Assad regime will be found to have used chemical weapons. And just like the lies that put the world on fire many times in history, it is very likely that the apocalypse, ignited with a lie, will be coming.

Like Jack Keane, I too don't need any inspection to assert that the Syrian rebels, including al-Qaida and Islamists, used the chemical weapons to blame it on Assad's regime.

First, the rebels were likely the ones who did it, because they are the ones killing Christians and burning their churches in Syria. On

To the driver of white pickup truck

Yesterday at 2:09pm, a person driving a new-looking, white pickup truck, with your email on the tailgate, turned left right in front of my vehicle. This happened at the intersection of Quartermaster Road and Middle Road.

There is a traffic light at this intersection and the light was flashing yellow for traffic traveling northbound and southbound on Middle Road. That means that the light was flashing red for the white pickup truck (with your email on the back). What this means, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation, is that your vehicle was supposed to stop and wait for the intersection to be clear before entering Middle Road. Also, it means that vehicles seeing the yellow light must slow down and enter the intersection with caution.

By **ED STEPHENS**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



sort of comet doomsday cult. I could set up shop on Pagan Island. For aspiring members, please note that your dues are payable in cash and that your dear leader must be fed the sacred diet of hamburgers, cheese goldfish, and Milk Duds.

Until the dues start rolling in, we've got plenty of time to see how this comet thing plays out. As always, I enjoy getting your e-mail, so if any comet hunters want to contribute to the discussion please contact me.

measurable and obvious. The economy was negatively impacted, residents left for greener pastures. This is a clear example of the unintended consequences.

Now the military is back. The feeling of security, revenue flowing in, returning residents, and increased tourism are fueling economic activity, providing Guam with a solid foundation for a brighter future. How are we in the CNMI? Yes, we will benefit from the increased security and increased tourism but can we attract investment? Yes but perhaps very limited due to Article 12.

I should point out that the cause of the mass exodus here in the CNMI is Article 12. If we look deeper into why we are what we are, it is because of Article 12. We need to embrace diversity and be one with the global community. We should leave the past behind and move forward. David M. Sablan is right, Chamber president Alex Sablan is right. The future is inclusion, not exclusion. Let us celebrate the color of the rainbow, representing the different colors of humanity.

Frank M. Atalig

Sinapalo Village, Rota

the other hand, Christians were given freedom of worship during the time of Assad and his predecessor. Christians have been in Syria since the time of the founding of Christianity.

The rebels are the ones who kill non-combatants. A child, who escaped death by playing dead, said that armed men with long beard and shaved heads gathered a host of Syrian civilians, including children, in one room and killed them. Syrian soldiers wear their military uniforms and can easily be distinguished from the rebels.

Second, it was just a few days ago that Assad allowed U.N. inspectors to inspect and find out who used the chemical weapons in the past. Great Britain and France have already branded Assad as a chemical weapons user. In view of these, Assad would be very stupid if he would use chemical weapons just a couple of days before the U.N. inspectors would come in.

Third, the rebels desperately need the U.S. to intervene, because they have not been able to succeed after two years of fighting. They have got to find a way to force the U.S. to intervene. A frame-up would be the best way to do it.

Fourth, the argument that the Assad regime is the only one who has chemical weapons is untenable. Iraq had chemical weapons. It is not improbable to theorize that before the Iraq war, the Islamists and al-Qaida got hold of these weapons. This is not to mention that they may have also gotten them from Libya.

Reynaldo O. Yana

Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

I complied with the law, which gave me the stopping distance so that no accident happened with my vehicle and the white pickup truck. The person driving this truck either does not know the law or doesn't care about the law. Saipan has federally funded highways so perhaps the DOT law applies in this case. If this was not you, please tell the driver of the white pickup truck (with your email on the back) to be careful at traffic intersections and follow the traffic laws. Please see the website link for more information (<http://www.dmv.org/articles/avoid-mixed-signals-by-learning-basic-traffic-signals/>). This could save lives!






David E. Johansen

via email

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 79
Palau	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 75
Yap	Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 75
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 75
Majuro	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 80

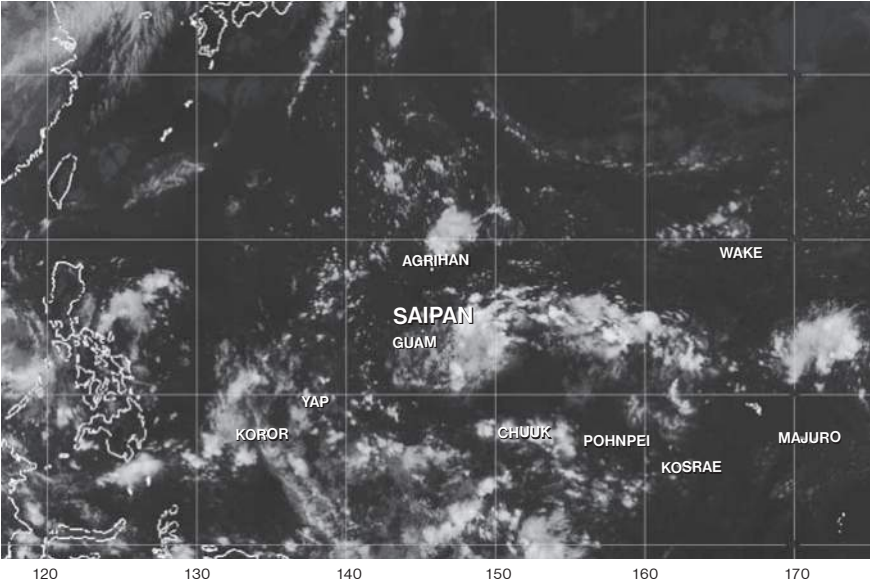
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 60 ▼ 54
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲ 83 ▼ 62
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 90 ▼ 74
London	Mostly Sunny	▲ 66 ▼ 53
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 92 ▼ 70
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 43
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 78
New York	Sunny	▲ 72 ▼ 56
Osaka	Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 74
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 56
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 80 ▼ 71
Rome	Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 67
Salem	Showers	▲ 74 ▼ 56
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 77 ▼ 63
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 62
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 83 ▼ 74
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 77 ▼ 58

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
3:08 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
8:46 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
3:21 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
9:26 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends eastward from near 10N132E to a weak circulation centered west of Chuuk near 7N145E then continues eastward to end near 7N162E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present across the Republic of Palau and portions of Yap, Chuuk and Pohnpei states within an area bounded by a line from 5N130E to EQ137E to EQ158E to 5N160E to 12N133E back to 5N130E. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms east of the Marianas within 130 miles of a line from 12N148E to 15N151E to 12N164E. A surface trough extends northeastward from north of Majuro at 11N169E to 14N174E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring just north of Utirik between 11N and 15N from 168E to 174E. Convergent southeast winds are producing scattered showers east of Majuro or east of a line from 9N176E to 3N177E. An upper-level low is centered just east of Iwo To island near 24N145E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found near the far northern CNMI within 130 miles of 20N147E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:05 AM	6:26 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:25 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:25 AM	6:47 PM
Saturday	7:16 AM	7:28 PM
Sunday	8:08 AM	8:12 PM
Monday	9:02 AM	8:58 PM
Tuesday	9:59 AM	9:47 PM

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 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5062 4:50am 5:40am 1, 3, 5 UA5068 8:35am 9:25am Daily UA5074 11:20am 12:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5076 3:10pm 4:00pm Daily UA5078 6:55pm 7:45pm Daily UA5072 9:45pm 10:35pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA 5069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5073 10:00am 10:50am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 UA5075 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 5:35pm 6:25pm Daily UA5079 8:20pm 9:10pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) OZ1077 4:50am 7:10am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 DL287 6:05am 8:45am Daily DL297 4:35pm 7:25pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) UA5062 2:40am 3:15am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 10:10am 10:45am 6
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO) DL583 5:50am 8:30am 2, 5, 6	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5062 3:45am 4:20am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 11:15am 11:50am 6
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ1119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:05pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 Daily OZ1087 10:00pm 2:25am+1 2, 3, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am Daily	NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN DL582 8:30pm 1:00am+1 1, 4, 5
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ612 3:40am 7:20am Daily OZ1119 4:00am 11:20am Daily via KIX OZ604 3:30pm 6:55pm Daily	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:05pm 1:55am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 4:10am 8:00am 1, 5	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 8:50am 2:20pm Daily OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ605 8:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ611 9:10pm 2:40am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV) SYL9950 6:40pm 1:30am+1 7	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763 7:55pm 3:10am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:20am 11:05am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:50am 11:05am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:35am 9:55am 6 via GUM UA5062/191 4:50am 9:55am 3 via GUM DL287/173 6:05am 10:05pm Daily via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:35am 4:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM US5074/PR111 11:20am 4:35pm 1, 5, 7 via GUM UA5076/183 3:10pm 9:10pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:30pm 10:45pm Daily via ICN	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:20am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5076/147 3:10pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM OZ604/745 3:30pm 10:40pm Daily via ICN	KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN SYL9949 12:45pm 5:20pm 7
	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN PR110/UA5072 7:55am 6:25pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 8:00am 12:50am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5079 10:55am 9:10pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ704/603 11:45pm 2:20pm Daily via ICN UA184/5071 11:35pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 10:45pm 8:05am+1 1, 5 via GUM UA180/5071 10:50pm 8:05am+1 3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
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- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Letters to the Editor

Traffic light activation button signage needed

To DPW Secretary Martin C. Sablan: When we travel to different countries where, naturally, things are done differently, it takes awhile to learn how some of the basics are accomplished. When a visit lasts only 3-5 days, those who visit Saipan are doomed to be "dumber than a rock" concerning how we do some things compared to where they come from. This is about one of those "things" and how it can be easily remedied and, in doing so,

Absurd

In a *Saipan Tribune* article about his address to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Mr. Gerald S.A. Perez cited the unintended economic consequences of local activists' agenda. I agree with many of Mr. Perez's perspectives, but this is not one of them.

The economic consequences he described were already well underway before the demonstration. NAS Agana, the Ship Repair Facility, and the skilled resident cadre of civil service workers had already been written off by the Navy. The demonstration was against the callous imposition of carrier-type aircraft noise practicing night-time "touch-and-go" approaches between dusk and 10pm every night. These aircraft were rotated in from Okinawa, where residents objected to the noise. I remember the same Navy jet noise in the 1960's over Sinajana, before jet noise abatement became a nationwide standard.

Political activists did not demand closing the Ship Repair Facility. Nor did they agitate to relocate the longstanding U.S. Marine Barracks. No one asked for a reduction-in-force or privatizing civil service jobs. We welcomed the budget-driven BRAC process of base consolidation.

The U.S. government opened and closed bases for its own reasons. It is absurd for Mr. Perez to imply that the U.S. military retreated and our relatives migrated because one inspired man jumped on a perimeter fence and expressed himself symbolically against one uniformed guard. The \$100 million reduction in federal payroll and millions more in annual impact on Guam's economy was an unrelated, deliberate reduction in defense spending.

We should understand the exercise of federal discretionary power, instead of allowing anyone to distort the facts, to blame American citizens who speak up for reasonable limits to that power. As Mr. Perez correctly pointed out, there are many similarities between the Guam and CNMI economies.

Darryl A. Borja Taggerty
Hagatna, Guam

help avoid injuries and possibly save lives.

Every day, morning and late afternoon, I pass by multiple signal-light-controlled intersections with pedestrian crossings. The Chinese and Russians, in particular, haven't a clue that the lights would be lit in their favor IF they pressed the activation button. In not doing so, they risk their safety and that of their families as well as the passing motorists'. And while rolling down the window or getting out of my car to explain the use of the buttons does have an impact, it's extremely limited. This could be easily changed.

A small, white-translucent, polycarbonate (indestructible) sign in English, Russian, Korean, Japanese, and Mandarin mounted on each light pole that has an activation button where they would

be naturally seen by pedestrians would do the trick (Note: The location may *not* necessarily be above the activation button and should be at eye level for the average adult in the culture with the shortest people).

And what might the message be? Something as simple as "To cross street safely, please press button."

You might consider back-lighting these signs for night-time effectiveness. It would be very important to consider using electro-luminescent panels to do the back-lighting. These use 1/10th the electricity of comparable LED's, which use far less energy than the traditional iridescent bulbs! They put out virtually no heat and their lifetime is longer than mine. More importantly, these little signs need to be seen at night!

The corner sidewalk in front of the library and across the street from the World Resort presents a significant problem. When it rains, that little section of sidewalk floods (and, as you know, the water is filthy, loaded

Re: Bennett's take on island ferry

Good point, Ambrose, though your rhetorical writing only shows the perils of loquacity. The NMI would require less than \$3 million, a huge savings for U.S. taxpayers! It makes a world of difference against hard hit U.S. taxpayers or a savings of \$17 million, true?

Your claim of "birth" to the idea of an interisland ferry is bogus. Nice try, though, taking us for "ignoramuses." About 23 years ago, TT economist Bill Stewart included in his book on how to improve the local

economy the ferry system and hotels, among others. So don't go spouting what we already know since years ago.

No worries, Amby. I also refuse to consult with you on constitutional issues, though you've granted yourself the lofty title "constitutional scholar." Nah, I'd rather work with credentialed and experienced constitutional lawyers like Howard Wilens and Deanne Seimer.

John S. DelRosario Jr.
As Gonno, Saipan



with dangerous bacteria), forcing people into the streets! I have remedied this by clearing back the overgrowth on the sidewalk and cutting a drainage path to a lower area in the lawn. But, please, implement the sign idea and take a look at visitor behavior in crossing our

streets. A crosswalk is of no use if it cannot be seen nor the activation buttons used if someone doesn't know what their intended use is.

Note: Polycarbonate is known as the "bullet-proof" plastic. These signs could be easily fabricated on island. I can

provide drawings should you be interested. The sign industry has a chart relating letter height to optimum distance viewed, and most-to-least visible two-color combinations.

Gary A. Liddle
As Lito, Saipan

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24 HOURS AFTER QUITTING:
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UOG enrollment increases by 4 pct. in fall 2013

»3,836 students represent highest enrollment since 1999

Despite national trends of decreasing enrollment in higher education, enrollment at the University of Guam continues to rise. UOG Admissions has reported a nearly 4-percent increase in enrollment over the prior year, with a certified enrollment of 3,836 students for fall 2013.

"The quality of our programs and multiple outreach efforts at various levels continue to attract students to campus," said UOG president Robert Underwood, Ph.D. "Each has made the natural choice by deciding to stay right here at home to attend UOG."

With over 300 full-time graduate students and nearly 3,500 full-time undergraduate

students—571 of which are new freshmen—UOG enrollment continues its upward trajectory.

"This increase in enrollment demonstrates the confidence our community has in the University of Guam," said Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez, acting senior vice president of Academic and Student Affairs. "Students are pursuing their degrees at UOG because they know they will receive a quality education at home that will position them to succeed in their chosen careers."

GovGuam leaders have continued to place importance in higher education. Public Law 31-276 allows the university to



An anatomy class gets underway at the UOG Science Building.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday JP! May God bless you with many more birthdays to come! We love you! Greetings come from your siblings Brian, Justin, AJ, RJ, JD, and Princy.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 22nd birthday to Lea Melva Masga! May your day be filled with lots of love and happiness! Enjoy it, cause you know YOLO! We love you long time! From Herbe, Mom, and the rest of the family!

keep tuition rates the same until 2014, which will be five years since UOG raised its tuition, a rare trend in higher education. Public Law 31-237 gives UOG flexibility in the administration of locally funded financial aid and also created the Access to Higher Education Financial Assistance Program, which is available only to UOG students and grants qualified students up to \$3,000 per year.

Last year, the university achieved notable milestones in enrollment and revenues. In addition to the third highest en-

rollment numbers in the last 15 years, the university conferred nearly 500 degrees, making 2012-2013 one of the largest graduating classes in UOG history. In 2012, university revenues reached an all-time high \$104 million, driven by \$50 million in grants and contracts that provide education, research, service, and capacity building in areas such as disabilities, agriculture, water quality, cancer, and many more.

"These record levels of student enrollment and revenue demonstrate the significance of

the University to the island and region," said Underwood.

About UOG

The University of Guam began as the Territorial College of Guam in 1952 and became the University of Guam in 1968, and in 1972, UOG received land-grant status. UOG is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and offers 34 undergraduate degree programs and 15 graduate degree programs including online graduate degrees such as a Master of Education in Reading and a

Professional Master of Business Administration.

In addition to WASC accreditation, several of the University of Guam's academic programs have obtained program specific accreditation from nationally recognized professional accrediting organizations including: National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc., Council on Social Work Education, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education. (UOG)



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The Power to Surprise

Green Gala tickets sold out

Due to the overwhelming response to the Green Gala that will be held this Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013, the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance has announced that no additional tickets will be sold at the door.

"We want to thank all the indi-

viduals who have bought tickets and all the companies who have contributed to the Green Gala," said Sam Sablan, MINA executive director. "We are working hard to put on a great event for everyone who have purchased tickets and to make them as

comfortable as possible. Unfortunately, because of space limitations, we are unable to sell any more tickets."

The leading conservation nonprofit organization in the Commonwealth, MINA has successfully implemented

many projects, including the Obyan Rehabilitation Project, the Teacher Environmental Camp, the Marine Debris Prevention program, Tasi Watch Project, and the Adopt-A-Bin Project.

In addition to great entertainment, dinner, and a variety of beverages, the Green Gala will feature highlights from

MINA's projects, a silent auction, and many other activities that promises a memorable evening.

"It's going to be a great night for the environment," said Fran Castro, MINA board member. For more information about the Green Gala, call the MINA office at 233-REEF (7333). (MINA)

Coast Guard conducts long-range medevac

HONOLULU—The U.S. Coast Guard conducted a long-range medevac of a mariner in distress from a fishing vessel in a remote region of the South Pacific Tuesday.

Watchstanders at the Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Honolulu received a call from the vessel agent, Tri Marine Group, requesting assistance in transporting a crewmember to emergency

medical services. A 36-year-old Panamanian man aboard the fishing vessel *Cape Elizabeth III* was reportedly suffering symptoms of appendicitis.

At 2:05pm, JRCC launched an

HC-130 Hercules aircrew from Air Station Barbers Point. After a six-hour flight of about 3,065 miles, the Hercules crew landed on Kanton Island where they met the patient. The patient was transferred by a helicopter from the *Cape Elizabeth III*'s sister ship, *Cape Horn*, to Kanton Island.

The Hercules crew flew the patient to Pago Pago International Airport in American Samoa at 10:35pm where they were met by emergency medical services. He was then taken by ambulance to

LBJ Tropical Medical Center for further treatment.

The 14th Coast Guard District encompasses an area of 12.2 million square miles of the central and south Pacific. Coast Guard aircraft based in Hawaii frequently travel thousands of miles in response to search and rescue and other calls for assistance.

The Hercules is scheduled to be replaced by the HC-130J, which will bring increased capabilities to Coast Guard response across the Pacific. (USCG)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Military training at Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Sept. 6 and Sept. 8, from 5pm to 11pm. The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated above.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. (PR)

Registration for ukulele class extended to Sept. 11

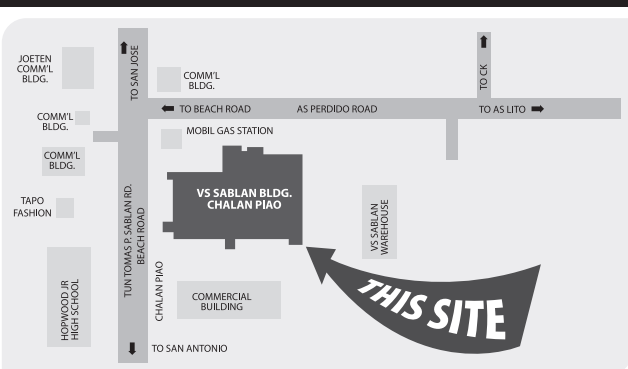
The registration for the 2013 Summer Ukulele Lessons at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library has been extended to Sept. 11. The ukulele class, which is from Sept. 12 to Oct. 31, is open to chil-

dren 8 years or older and adults and encompasses eight hours. It costs \$50 and will be held from 4pm to 5:30pm every Thursday. Registration is on a first-come, first-paid basis. For more information about the 2013 summer ukulele class, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe or call 235-7316 or 235-7322-23, fax 235-7550. (PR)

Kagman clinic now open Saturdays

In order to be more accessible to the community, the Kagman Community Health Center is opening its doors for services on Saturday mornings from 8am to 12pm beginning Sept. 7, 2013. Regular clinic hours from Monday to Saturday are 8am to 4pm and closed on Sunday. Walk-ins are welcome depending on availability. Patients with appointments are given priority to be seen. To make an appointment or to get information, call 256-KCHC (5242). More information about KCHC is available at its website at www.kagman-chc.org. (PR)

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EU launches €20M program to help build climate-resilient Pacific

At the occasion of the Pacific Islands Forum, European Union Commissioner for Climate Action Connie Hedegaard, Secretariat of the Pacific Community Director General Dr. Jimmie Rodgers, and Secretariat of the African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States Secretary General Alhaji Muhammad Mumuni signed the “ACP-EU Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific” program. The European Union will provide 20 million euros to support Pacific states in addressing the impacts of climate change and the urgent need to improve resilience to natural disasters.

The high vulnerability of Pacific island countries to disaster is well known. This is further exacerbated by their often small land areas as well as their narrow, subsistence-based fragile economies. Natural hazards undermine development and the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals. This program responds to these challenges and will strengthen the capacity of Pacific states to address existing and emerging challenges with regard to the risks posed by natural hazards and related disasters, while maximizing synergies between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

“For the Pacific people, climate change is not about a distant future. It has become the new normal. This program will help the Pacific states in their



Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States Secretary General Alhaji Muhammad Mumuni, Secretariat of the Pacific Community Director General Dr. Jimmie Rodgers, and European Union Commissioner for Climate Action Connie Hedegaard.

efforts to adapt to this new climate reality. The Pacific states can count on Europe to continue its climate cooperation in the region,” said Hedegaard.

“Pacific leaders have long shown their commitment to the Hyogo Framework for Action and, in particular to their popu-

lations, by adopting a 10-year Pacific Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management Framework for Action for the region (known commonly as the Regional Framework for Action or RFA 2005- 2015). We have voiced our concerns to the international community about

the need to link resilience to the achievement of regional and national sustainable development and poverty reduction goals in Pacific Islands region states. We are confident that this program will improve the ability of our members to withstand, better cope, and quickly recover from


natural disasters that systematically divert us from our path toward a sustainable and resilient development,” said Rodgers.

“This program is the Pacific component of our cooperation with the European Union on disaster risk reduction. This groundbreaking program will

bring a new impetus to the region in terms of the much-needed synergies between disaster risk reduction and climate change. We rely on the expertise provided by our partner in the region, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, as it will work closely with the ACP Pacific countries to ensure the sustainability of the results,” said Mumuni.


The program, mostly focused on in-country actions, will further support community-based disaster risk reduction; increase effective preparedness, response, and recovery from natural disaster (e.g., through early warning systems, access to evacuation centers and safe drinking water); seek better integration of disaster risk management in national and sector strategies; and continue mainstreaming DRR and climate change adaptation at the national and regional levels through integrated strategies. The program will also improve the collection and use of science-based information for better awareness and understanding of natural hazard, education, and training.

The Applied Geoscience and Technology Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community has collaborated with the EU in the identification and formulation of this program and it will jointly manage it, building on its past successful experience with several other European Union financed initiatives. *(SPC)*



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Chuato Rai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW13-IFB-006



Governor Eloy S. Inos, and Lt. Governor Jude P. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids proposal for the **Repair and Renovation of Proposed Garapan Public Market, Garapan Fishing Base, Saipan**, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after August 23, 2013 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on September 03, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. local time at the Project Site, **Proposed Farmers Market, Garapan Fishing Base**, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 2:30 p.m. local time on September 06, 2013 to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director, Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked **“DPW13-IFB-006”**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 12, 2013. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 12, 2013, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than September 12, 2013, and must be received no later than September 20, 2013. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:30 a.m. local time, September 23, 2013. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 9:30 a.m. local time, on September 14, 2013.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, no cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General be pre-approved prior to bid submission. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: “Credit Account No. 44660”. If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island, and
- Under penalty of perjury, a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Government Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit


Performance time for completion of this project is One hundred and Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at Two Hundred Dollars (US \$200.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works


/s/ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Secretary of Department of Land and Natural Resources

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement and Supply



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS STATEMENTS
for
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES
for the
TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
RFQ13-GOV-163 (Amended)



Governor Eloy S. Inos, and Lieutenant Governor Jude Hoffschneider, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, (collectively, “Commonwealth”) are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified consultants to provide Construction Management (CM) services for the Tinian International Airport Improvements Project, located on Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Project construction plans, specifications, and the complete Scope of Work for CM services required will be available (on CD-ROM) on **Friday, September 6, 2013** at the Governor’s CIP Administrator’s Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI. **A non-refundable payment of Twenty-Five Dollars (US \$25.00) is required for each set.** Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer, and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the RFQ package at the CIP Office.

A pre-proposal meeting will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2013**, at the Governor’s conference room, first floor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Questions regarding this RFQ must be submitted in writing to Mr. Timothy R. Lang, CIP Project Manager, at trlang@yahoo.com, or via fax to (670) 664-2408, no later than **4:00 p.m. ChST Tuesday, September 17, 2013**.

Statements of professional qualification from interested firms must address, and will be evaluated on, the following criteria:

- Overall construction management experience in the Western Pacific Region, and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (20%)
- Specialized experience and technical competence in the type of work required and previous experience with projects similar in scope (20%)
- Key personnel’s professional qualifications, experience and availability for the proposed services; their professional integrity and competence; and their knowledge of FAA regulations, policies and procedures (20%)
- Past performance on similar projects, including cost control, ability to meet schedules, and quality of completed construction (20%)
- Current workload and demonstrated ability to perform the project Scope of Work (20%)

Statements of qualifications must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. To qualify, firms must have a valid CNMI Business License, and be licensed to practice architecture and/or engineering in the CNMI.

Firms shall submit an estimate of CM fees based upon a 15-month project schedule (12-month construction plus 3-month close-out). Fee estimates will assist the CIP Office for budgeting purposes, but will not be considered in firm evaluation scores.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and five (5) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:00 p.m., Monday, September 30, 2013**.

Interviews will be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked **“RFQ13-GOV-163, Construction Management Services for the Tinian International Airport Improvements Project”**. One (1) original and five (5) copies of the qualifications statement must be submitted to the **Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP, no later than 4:00 p.m. ChST, Monday, September 30, 2013**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

/s/Eloy S. Inos, Governor

/s/Herman S. Sablan, Director of Procurement & Supply

Democratic Party of the NMI unveils new office in Dandan

The Democratic Party of the Northern Marianas invites all citizens to celebrate the opening of the party's office and headquarters on the first floor of the RJ Commercial Building, directly across Joeten Supermarket and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. offices in Dan Dan.

The opening will begin at 10am on Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013, and will be led by party chair Edward Manibusan, vice chair Jesus C. Borja, and other members of the Central Executive Committee. Refreshments will be served.

The opening of the new office will also serve as a party registration drive

for anyone who wishes to register as a Democrat and participate in its activities, including serving as a director on the Central Executive Committee.

Up until last month, the Democratic Party met at an office donated by Herman's Modern Bakery.

The Democratic Party of the Northern Marianas invite all citizens to visit their new office to learn about the "People's Party" and the vision the Democrats have for the future of the Commonwealth.

For information and news, you can visit the party's Facebook page, facebook.com/CNMI Democrats, or contact Manibusan at 483-7934 or Borja at 234-8848. (PR)

NMI to take part in the 28th international beach cleanups

It is that time of the year again to show your passion for the ocean. Saipan, Rota, and Tinian will be participating in the 28th Annual International Coastal Cleanup. We are joining the global community to work toward trash-free seas by coordinating beach cleanups all over the CNMI islands.

The ICC will take place on Tinian on Wednesday, Sept. 18, and on Rota on Friday, Sept. 20. On Saipan it will take place over two days, Friday, Sept. 20, and Saturday, Sept. 21.

The trash along our coast and in our waters endangers the health of residents, wildlife, and coastal economies. Last year the CNMI had 2,035 participants pick up 10,915 lbs of trash that included plastic bags, straw wrappers,

and cigarettes. This year we are aiming to increase the number of participants across the islands.

Coastal Resources Management is encouraging businesses, organizations, clubs, and individuals to spend one day (actually just an hour or two) cleaning up trash from our land, waterways, and oceans. We invite you to sign up for the event and volunteer to clean up or host a cleanup with our help. To sign up or for further information contact your International Coastal Cleanup coordinator:

■ Saipan coordinator: Nicole Schaffer, 664-8312

■ Rota coordinator: William Pendergrass, 532-0466

■ Tinian coordinator: Edwin Hofschneider, 433-0494 (PR)

Hyatt's Kili Café and Terrace goes Indonesian



Hyatt Regency Saipan will be serving up Indonesian dishes for two days starting tonight at Kili Café and Terrace.

Chef de cuisine Sugeng Pribadi will be cooking up a storm in Hyatt's kitchen, preparing only the best his native cuisine could offer for Indonesian Feast set for Sept. 7 and 8, from 6pm to 9pm.

He described Indonesian cuisine as a type of cooking that uses a lot of unique flavors and spices from the Southeast Asian country's many regions like Sumatra, Bali, and Java.

Indonesian cuisine also uses only the freshest ingredients from the local market, with some Dutch and Spanish influences.

Among the ingredients that Pribadi will be using for the Indonesian Feast are fresh turmeric, lemon grass, kefir leaves, chili, galagal, shrimp paste for his sambal dish; fresh coconut, jackfruit, long beans, fresh local tofu, squash, papaya, sweet potatoes, ginger, banana, lime, lamb, beef and chicken for his satay skewers, and local onaga wrapped in spicy fresh herbs and wrapped in banana leaves.

Some of items in Pribadi's menu for the two-day culinary event are beef satay, mud crab curry, and spiced layer cake.

When asked what differentiates Indonesian cuisine from other Southeast Asian style of cooking like Vietnamese and Thai, Pribadi said the ingredients and spices used are similar but Indonesian cooking is influenced by the country's culture and its people's palate.

Pribadi invites everyone to experience the cuisine of his home country.

"It will be a feast of regional specialties, from Bali and my place in Bandung, guests will enjoy special flavors and authentic recipes."

Pribadi was recently elevated to the position of chef de cuisine. Prior to that he was Hyatt Regency Saipan's chef de partie. He also served as commis chef and cook. His been with the hotel since November 1999.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Hyatt Regency Saipan's chef de cuisine Sugeng Pribadi will be serving up Indonesian dishes for two days starting tonight at Kili Café and Terrace.

Indonesian Feast costs \$43 per person and Club at the Hyatt members are welcome. The buffet includes red wine, white wine, beer, and ice tea.

For reservations, call Kili Café and Terrace at 234-1234. (Saipan Tribune)

Congratulations



Saipan Ice & Water Co., Inc.

on your

28th Year Anniversary!

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Pelley Group of Companies



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PELLEY ENTERPRISES INC.
P.O. BOX 1808 SAIPAN, MP 96950



Business

Studies take early look at health law's premiums

WASHINGTON (AP)—Coverage under President Barack Obama's health care law won't be cheap, but cost-conscious consumers hunting for lower premiums will have plenty of options, according to two independent private studies.

A study released Thursday by the nonprofit Kaiser Family Foundation found that government tax credits would lower the sticker price on a benchmark "silver" policy to a little over \$190 a month for single people making about \$29,000, regard-

less of their age.

By pairing their tax credit with a stripped-down "bronze" policy, some younger consumers can bring their premiums down to the range of \$100 to \$140 a month, while older people can drive their monthly cost even lower—well below \$100—if they are willing to take a chance with higher deductibles and copays.

A separate study released Wednesday from Avalere Health, a private data analysis firm, took a wide-angle view, averaging the sticker prices of policies at differ-

ent coverage levels.

Before tax credits that act like a discount, premiums for a 21-year-old buying a mid-range "silver" policy would be about \$270 a month, the Avalere study found. List-price premiums for a 40-year-old buying a mid-range plan will average close to \$330. For a 60-year-old, they were nearly double that at \$615 a month.

Starting Oct. 1, those who don't have health care coverage on the job can go to new on-line insurance markets in their states to shop for a private plan

and find out if they qualify for a tax credit. An estimated 4 out of 5 consumers in the new markets will be eligible for some level of tax credit.

Come Jan. 1, virtually all Americans will be required to have coverage, or face fines. At the same time, insurance companies will no longer be able to turn away people in poor health.

The Obama administration, which is running the markets or taking the lead in 35 states, is not expected to release final premiums until close to the Oct. 1

launch date. But the two private studies provide an early look at the emerging market.

Caroline Pearson, lead author of the Avalere study, said it will be competitive, but there will be big price differences among age groups, states and even within states.

The bottom line is mixed: Many consumers will like their new options, particularly if they qualify for a tax credit. But others may have to stretch to afford coverage.

"We are seeing competitive offerings in every market if you buy toward the low end of what's available," said Pearson, a vice president of Avalere.

However, for uninsured people who are paying nothing today, "this is still a big cost that they're expected to fit into their budgets," Pearson added.

The Obama administration said consumers will have options that are cheaper than the averages presented in the Avalere study. "We're consistently seeing that premiums will be lower than expected," she said. "For the many

people that qualify for a tax credit, the cost will be even lower."

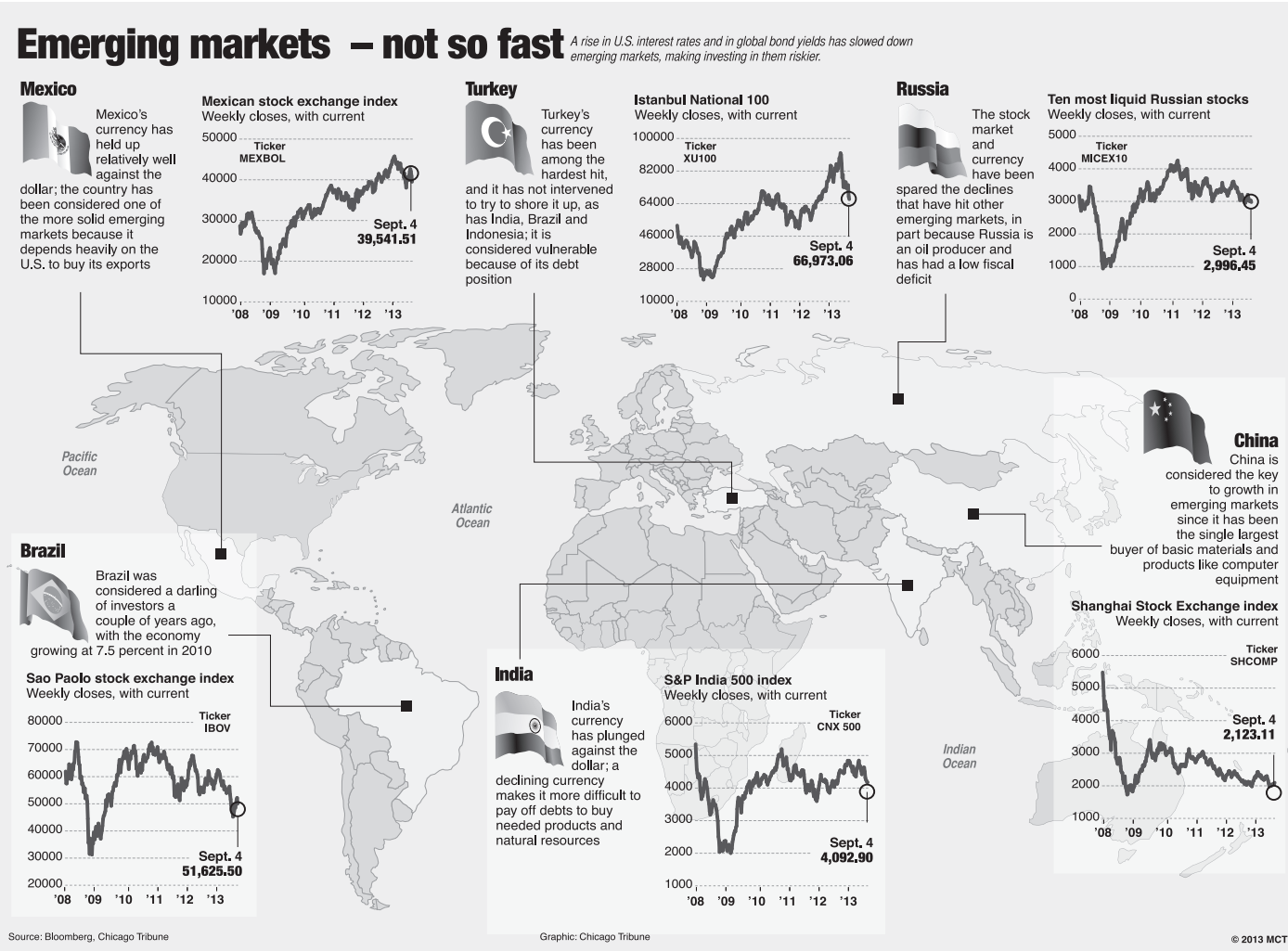
The Kaiser study found that while premiums will vary significantly across the country, they are generally coming in lower than forecast by the government's own experts. It cautioned against comparing premiums under Obama's law to what individually insured people currently pay, because the new coverage is more robust.

Avalere crunched the numbers on premiums filed by insurers in 11 states and Washington, D.C. Kaiser analyzed 17 states and the District of Columbia. Both studies included a mix of states running their own insurance markets and ones in which the federal government will take charge.

The states analyzed by Avalere were California, Connecticut, Indiana, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia and Washington.

In addition to those, Kaiser included Colorado, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico and Oregon.

G-20 summit leaders face a divided global economy



WASHINGTON (AP)—Something unfamiliar will be in the background as world leaders hold a summit in Russia starting Thursday: economic growth throughout the developed world.

And something will be missing: worry about a renewed financial crisis.

Leaders from 20 of the largest economies are more confident about their banking systems than at any other time since they began meeting five years ago. What's more, the economies of the United States, Europe and Japan are finally growing simultaneously.

Yet fears are rising about emerging nations, which have

helped drive the global economy for years: Growth is slowing, investor money is leaving and borrowing costs are rising, in part because of higher interest rates in the United States.

The result is a more divided world than the leaders faced at previous summits of the Group of 20 major economies—a disparity that could make any major breakthroughs at the summit elusive.

Issues beyond economic ones will surely seize part of the agenda. The threat of a U.S.-led military strike against Syria, in response to what the Obama administration calls a deadly chemi-

cal weapons attack, is certain to arise. Russian President Vladimir Putin, an ally of Syrian President Bashar Assad and the host of the G-20 summit, has asked President Barack Obama to reconsider any military action.

Some countries may also take the opportunity to complain about spying by the U.S. National Security Administration.

Europe's financial crisis, and fears that the euro currency alliance might unravel, had brought focus to previous summits. The leaders first met in 2008 as the U.S. financial crisis was raging and infecting economies around the world. The United States,

Europe and Japan are now economically sturdier.

"There is a stronger incentive to cooperate if you are on the brink of a crisis," says Domenico Lombardi, an economist at the Center for International Governance Innovation in Canada. Without such a threat, "each country is looking after its own domestic affairs."

After their first meetings, for example, the G-20 leaders embraced policies to try to rejuvenate the global economy. Last year, they agreed to boost the International Monetary Fund's financial resources, which had been depleted by Europe's crisis.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Fed survey finds US economy growing moderately
WASHINGTON (AP)—Economic growth held steady across the United States from July through late August, as Americans bought more cars and homes and auto factories added workers. A Federal Reserve survey released Wednesday showed that all 12 of the Fed's regional banking districts reported modest to moderate growth. That's roughly in line with the Fed's previous survey of those districts from late May through early July. The survey, known as the beige book, said that job growth was steady and that hiring in manufacturing improved modestly, especially at auto and auto-parts factories.

Auto sales rebound to pre-recession levels
DETROIT (AP)—For the U.S. auto industry, the recession is now clearly in the rear-view mirror. New car sales jumped 17 percent to 1.5 million in August, their highest level in more than six years. Toyota, Ford, Nissan, Honda, Chrysler and General Motors all posted double-digit gains over last August. The full-year sales pace rose above 16 million for the first time since November 2007, the month before the Great Recession officially started. Exuberant automakers said sales will likely remain at that pace for the rest of this year.

IMF says dynamics of global growth shifting
WASHINGTON (AP)—The International Monetary Fund said Wednesday that it sees the dynamics of global growth shifting, with the major economies strengthening while developing countries slow. The international lending agency released the assessment in advance of the Group of 20 summit of the world's largest economies, set to begin Thursday in Russia. The IMF forecast global growth will accelerate in 2014 compared with this year. It predicted the U.S. will be the main driver of global growth in the near term, as private demand, housing and labor markets all strengthen. European and Japanese economies recovering from a slump will also contribute.

STOCK PORTFOLIO	LEADING INDICATORS			EXCHANGE RATES			
	DOW 14,930.87 +96.91 +0.65%	S&P 1,653.08 +13.31 +0.81%	NASDAQ 3,649.04 +36.43 +1.01%	In U.S. dollar terms	Australian Dollar 1.0930	Hong Kong Dollar 7.7556	Philippine Peso 44.2899
				British Pound 0.6411	Indian Rupee 67.0563	Singapore Dollar 1.2777	
				Canadian Dollar 1.0492	Indonesian Rupiah 66.3131	South Korean Won 1099.2273	
				Chinese Yuan 6.1196	Japanese Yen 99.9320	Swiss Franc 0.9395	
				Euro 0.7593	Malaysian Ringgit 3.2884	Taiwan Dollar 29.7448	
					New Zealand Dollar 1.2691	Thailand Baht 32.2559	

Nation

ACROSS THE NATION

Obama weighs Egypt aid suspension

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama’s top national security aides have recommended that the U.S. suspend hundreds of millions of dollars in military and economic assistance to Egypt in response to the Egyptian military’s ouster of the country’s first democratically elected leader, U.S. officials said Wednesday. Such a step would be a dramatic shift for an administration that has declined to label Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi’s July 3 ouster a coup and has argued that it is in U.S. national security interests to keep the aid flowing. It would also likely have profound implications for decades of close U.S.-Egyptian ties that have served as a bulwark of security and stability in the Middle East. The officials say the recommendation has been with Obama for at least a week but they don’t expect him to make a decision until after the full Congress votes on his request for authorization for military strikes on Syria, which is not expected before Monday.

Feds won’t enforce same-sex veterans law

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration said Wednesday it will stop enforcing a law that blocks benefits to partners of military veterans in same-sex marriages. In a letter to congressional leaders, Attorney General Eric Holder said that a provision in federal law on benefits to veterans and their families defines “spouse” to mean a person of the opposite sex. He says that definition leaves out legally married same-sex couples, and runs afoul of a June Supreme Court ruling. The court declared unconstitutional a provision in the Defense of Marriage Act restricting the words marriage and spouse to apply only to heterosexual unions.

Cleveland man’s suicide brings little sympathy

CLEVELAND (AP)—Residents in the tough Cleveland neighborhood where three women were secretly imprisoned for a decade reacted with scorn and grim satisfaction Wednesday after Ariel Castro hanged himself in his cell barely a month into a life sentence. Even the prosecutor joined in. “This man couldn’t take, for even a month, a small portion of what he had dished out for more than a decade,” said Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Tim McGinty. Castro, 53, was found hanging from a bedsheet Tuesday night at the state prison in Orient, corrections spokeswoman JoEllen Smith said.

NH patient likely died of rare brain disease

CONCORD, N.H. (AP)—Public health officials believe one person in New Hampshire has died of a rare, degenerative brain disease, and say there’s a remote chance up to 13 others in multiple states were exposed to the fatal illness through surgical equipment. Dr. Joseph Pepe, president of Catholic Medical Center in Manchester, said officials are 95 percent certain that a patient who had brain surgery in May and died in August had sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease. The disease progresses rapidly once symptoms appear and is always fatal, usually within a few months. But the symptoms can take decades to show up.

Obama wins Senate panel’s backing on Syria strike

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama’s request for speedy congressional backing of a military strike in Syria advanced Wednesday toward a showdown Senate vote, while the commander in chief left open the possibility he would order retaliation for a deadly chemical weapons attack even if Congress withheld its approval.

Legislation backing the use of force against President Bashar Assad’s government cleared the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on a 10-7 vote after it was stiffened at the last minute to include a pledge of support for “decisive changes to the present military balance of power” in Syria’s civil war. It also would rule out U.S. combat

operations on the ground.

The measure is expected to reach the Senate floor next week, although the timing for a vote is uncertain. Sen. Rand Paul, a Kentucky conservative with strong tea party ties, has threatened a filibuster.

The House also is reviewing Obama’s request, but its timetable is even less certain and the measure could face a rockier time there.

The administration blames Assad for a chemical weapons attack that took place on Aug. 21 and says more than 1,400 civilians died, including at least 400 children. Other casualty estimates are lower, and

the Syrian government denies responsibility, contending rebels fighting to topple the government were to blame.

The Senate panel’s vote marked the first formal response in Congress, four days after Obama unexpectedly put off an anticipated cruise missile strike against Syria last weekend and instead asked lawmakers to unite first behind such a plan.

In Stockholm, Sweden, where Obama was traveling on Wednesday, the White House praised the vote, and said it would continue to seek support for “a military response that is narrowly tailored to



Obama

Teen dead, more hurt in Texas high school stabbing

SPRING, Texas (AP)—A fight inside a Houston-area high school escalated into a series of stabbings Wednesday that left a 17-year-old student dead and three others wounded, sheriff’s officials said.

The stabbings happened during a fight between several students in a school corridor. The Harris County Sheriff’s Office said 17-year-old student Luis Alonzo Alfaro pulled a knife during the fight and fatally stabbed one student and wounded three others.

Alfaro admitted to the stabbing under questioning by sheriff’s homicide detectives and was charged with murder, the Sheriff’s Office said in a statement released Wednesday evening.



AP

Lora Ross, left, hugs her son Jonathan Ross outside Spring High School Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013, in Spring, Texas.

Sheriff’s spokesman Alan Bernstein referred queries about whether Alfaro had an attorney

to the district clerk’s website, which had not been updated as of Wednesday night. Alfaro also was not yet listed in the jail’s booking system.

Authorities provided few details on what may have led to the fight, and no other information was available on the teenager who was killed.

“We believe a confrontation of some sort occurred ... that ultimately led into a physical confrontation that produced weapons,” Sheriff Adrian Garcia said. “There has been some information that this may have been gang related.”

School district officials canceled classes at the high school for the rest of the week.

Some parents said the fight was the continuation of a distur-

bance that broke out Tuesday. Officials at the school, which has about 3,500 students, would not confirm their comments.

“Every parent sends their child to school believing school should be one of those safe haven places,” Spring Independent School District Superintendent Ralph Draper said. “This is what we spend our nights and days working toward and what I lose sleep over.”

Secretary of State John Kerry said he believes Obama will address the nation on Syria in the next few days. The president returns home from overseas Friday night.

“In my nearly 30-year career, this is the one thing you pray never to experience.”

Parent Tara Campbell said she received text messages from her daughter about the fight and that her daughter said students who witnessed the episode snapped cellphone photos of the victims as they lay on the ground.

Kunyi Zheng
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. (670) 989-9064 or
(670) 235-9886

Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter OfThe) FCD GU
Petition To Appoint) CIVIL ACTION
Guardianship for an) NO. 13-0163
Incompetent Person:)
Jackie Jai Jen Ren) NOTICE OF
An Incompetent) HEARING
Person)
By:)
Kunyi Zheng)
Petitioner.)

Notice is hereby given that the
above-entitled matter is set for a
hearing on September 12, 2013, at 10:30
a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before
Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo.

Dated this 5th day of September,
2013.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH)
GOVERNMENT) CIVIL ACTION
EMPLOYEES CREDIT) NO. 05-0382
UNION,)
Plaintiff,) TENTH AMENDED
-v-) NOTICE OF SALE
MARIANO S. NAPUTI,)
Defendant.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an
Order issued by the Court in this matter on
November 3, 2006, I will sell, at public auction,
to the highest bidder, on the terms and
conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right,
title, and interest of Defendant in and to the
following property: Lot No. 002 G 334,
situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern
Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929
square meters, more or less, as more
particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral
Plat No. 002 G 08, the original of which was
recorded May 14, 1990, as document No.
90-1905, at the Commonwealth Recorder's
Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be
held on Friday, October 4, 2013, at the hour of
1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A.
White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan,
Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be
open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and
Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the
undersigned, either prior to or at the sale.
These terms and conditions shall govern the
conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 1st day of September, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK,)
Plaintiff,) CIVIL ACTION
-v-) NO. 06-0054
DANIEL JOSEPH M.) TENTH AMENDED
CABRERA and) NOTICE OF SALE
MAGDALENA S.)
CABRERA,)
Defendants.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an
Order issued by the Court in this matter on
September 19, 2008, I will sell, at public
auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms
and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the
right, title, and interest of Defendants in and
to the following property: (a) Lot No. 005 I
180, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana
Islands, a more particularly described on
Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 02, the
original of which was recorded March 11,
1983, as Document No. 16707, at the
Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan;
and (b) Tract No. 225840-1-1, located in
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, Northern Mariana
Islands, as more particularly described on DLS
Check No. 2119/92, deeded to Daniel Muna
Cabrera on August 24, 1998, and recorded as
File No. 99-2096 on September 3, 1999.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be
held on Friday, October 4, 2013, at the hour of
1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A.
White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan,
Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be
open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and
Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the
undersigned, either prior to or at the sale.
These terms and conditions shall govern the
conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 1st day of September, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

TAPAN SHAHA,)
Petitioner,) FCD-DI-CIVIL
-v-) ACTION NO.
FIANA MOSES,) 13-0365
Respondent,) SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE NAMED
RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and
notified to file any answer you wish to
make to the Complaint, a copy which
is served upon you herewith, within
twenty (20) days after service of the
Summons upon you, and to deliver or
mail a copy of your answer to Tapan
Shaha whose address is P.O. Box
506011, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as
practicable after filing your answer or
sending it to the Clerk of Courts for
filing.

Your answer should be in writing and
filed with the Clerk of this Court at
Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be
prepared for you by your counsel and
sent to the Clerk of this Court by
messenger or Mail. It is not necessary
for you to appear personally until
further notice. If you fail to file and
answer in accordance with this
summons, judgment by default may
be taken against you for relief in the
complaint.

Dated this 6th day of August, 2013:

/s/ Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MD SHAZEDUR)
RAHMAN,) FCD-DI-CIVIL
-v-) ACTION NO.
EDNA KILLION,) 13-0366
Respondent,) SUMMONS
FOR
PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAMED
RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and
notified to file any answer you wish to
make to the Complaint, a copy which is
on file with the court, within thirty (30)
days after service of the Summons
upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy
of your answer to the Petitioner whose
address is P.O. Box 505775, Saipan, MP
96950, as soon as practicable after
filing your answer or sending it to the
Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and
filed with the Clerk of this Court at
P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP
96950. It may be prepared for you by
your counsel and sent to the Clerk of
this Court by messenger or Mail. It is
not necessary for you to appear
personally until further notice. If you
fail to file and answer in accordance
with this summons, judgment by
default may be taken against you for
relief in the complaint.

Dated this 20th day of August, 2013:

/s/Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK,)
Plaintiff,) CIVIL ACTION
-v-) NO. 97-1054
JUAN R. SABLAN and) TENTH AMENDED
ANGELINE F. SABLAN,) NOTICE OF SALE
Defendants.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an
Order issued by the Court in this matter on
November 10, 2008, I will sell, at public
auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms
and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the
right, title, and interest of Defendants in and
to the following property: Real property
situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands,
designated as Lot E.A. 839 NEW-6-3,
containing an area of 1,329 square meters,
more or less, as more particularly described
on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. E.A. 839 NEW.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be
held on Friday, October 4, 2013, at the hour
of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A.
White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan,
Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be
open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and
Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the
undersigned, either prior to or at the sale.
These terms and conditions shall govern the
conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 1st day of September, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Asia

Afghan woman sought in alleged \$1.1M bank theft

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The young woman worked for three years at the Afghan bank, officials say. Then one day she vanished. As did \$1.1 million.

Afghan authorities have been scrambling to track down the suspected thief and several alleged accomplices, and an international arrest warrant has been issued. Still, the revelations are another embarrassment for the banking sector in this country, which has seen

corruption already unravel one major institution amid ongoing security threats from militants and criminals.

Shokofa Salehi, 22, worked in the money transfer division at the headquarters of Azizi Bank, a major Afghan lender in Kabul, officials said. She disappeared around two months ago, according to Azizi chief executive Inayatullah Fazli. Investigators say she is suspected of transferring some \$1.1 million out of the bank's coffers to accounts of relatives. Besides Salehi, at least nine people are believed involved in the case.

"They are a mafia group," Fazli alleged.

An Interpol red notice—the equivalent of an international arrest warrant—describes authorities as seeking Salehi on charges of fraud and misusing her authority. Afghan officials believe Salehi used fake documents under the name Samira to reach India after transferring the money; her current whereabouts are unknown.

Two suspects in the case have been detained in Dubai, senior Afghan police official Gen. Aminullah Amarkhail said, adding that he's in touch with counterparts in Dubai and India for help tracking down Salehi and other suspects. He said one suspect is alleged to have spent some \$850,000 of the money to invest in a tire business and possibly other ventures in Dubai.

Amarkhail said Salehi's parents were among the suspects, and are believed to have



This file image provided by Interpol shows an undated photo of Shokofa Salehi. The young woman worked for three years at the Afghan bank, officials say.

returned to Kabul after going with her to India. Another top police official, Mohammad Zahir, said investigators were still seeking the parents.

Azizi Bank's website says it

began operating in 2006, and that it now has "a 1,500-plus strong team of employees and with a 20 percent female workforce is playing a quiet but effective role in women's eman-

cipation and empowerment." It also calls itself "the bank you can trust."

As striking as it is, Salehi's alleged pilfering pales in comparison to some other examples of corruption in Afghanistan's banking sector.

In 2010, regulators seized Kabul Bank, Afghanistan's largest lender, amid allegations of severe levels of graft. Its near-collapse and subsequent bailout represented more than 5 percent of Afghanistan's gross domestic product, making it one of the largest banking failures in the world in relative terms.

An independent report described Kabul Bank as being run like a Ponzi scheme. Investigators said some \$861 million in fraudulent loans had disappeared into the pockets of associates of the men behind the bank.

Earlier this year, an Afghan tribunal sentenced two top Kabul Bank executives to five years in prison for misappropriating funds. Critics said the punishments were far too light and raised questions about President Hamid Karzai's commitment to rooting out corruption.

On Tuesday, Afghanistan announced it was trying once again to privatize what it had salvaged of the bank, which is now called New Kabul Bank.

Banks in Afghanistan have also been targeted by Taliban militants and criminal gangs.

Not only are they prime targets for people seeking to steal money, they also are gathering places for many government employees seeking to make deposits or cash their paychecks, thus making them attractive to suicide bombers.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Officials: Afghan police kill 2 gunmen at mosque

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghan authorities say police killed two militants in an early morning shootout at a Shiite Muslim mosque in Kabul. Details were sketchy in the immediate hours after the clash Thursday, but the national intelligence service released a video showing the bloodied bodies of the alleged militants, who wore police uniforms. The intelligence service's statement described the gunmen as being Pakistani, though it gave no indication as to how it knew that. It said the men were armed with Kalashnikovs and other weapons. According to the intelligence service, three bystanders attending early morning prayers at the mosque were wounded.

Turkmenistan starts pumping gas from vast field

YOLOTAN, Turkmenistan (AP)—Turkmenistan began pumping natural gas Wednesday from a vast field near the Afghan border that will help it more than double exports to China in the coming years. Chinese President Xi Jinping joined Turkmenistan's president, Gurbanguli Berdimukhamedov, for the start of gas production at the South Yolotan field in the former Soviet republic in Central Asia. Independent British auditor Gaffney, Cline & Associates estimates that South Yolotan may hold up to 21.2 trillion cubic meters (750 trillion cubic feet) of gas, potentially making it the second-largest reserve of gas in the world after the South Pars field that is shared between Iran and Qatar.

SKorea assembly votes to allow lawmaker's arrest

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's National Assembly paved the way Wednesday for the possible arrest of a left-wing lawmaker who is facing the unusual accusation that he plotted to topple the country's democratically elected government if war broke out with North Korea. At the heart of the alleged "leftist rebellion" is Lee Seok-ki, a first-time lawmaker from a small leftist party who has long been accused of pro-North Korean views. The assembly overwhelmingly passed a proposal on Wednesday that would lift Lee's legislative immunity against arrest. A district court will now determine whether to issue an arrest warrant. It is believed to be the first time the assembly has passed such a motion over rebellion charges.

Plans for new Indian state spark demands for more

NEW DELHI (AP)—India, a nation of 1.2 billion people, has 28 states. Some would rank among the world's most populous countries. So when India's ruling coalition endorsed a 29th state last month, millions of people who have felt ignored and marginalized living far from their state capitals had the same reaction: Why not us? In West Bengal state, for example, tens of thousands of indigenous Gorkhas demanding their own state—Gorkhaland—have barricaded streets in Darjeeling, the town best known for its prized tea gardens. Strikes have shut down businesses. Police arrested dozens of activists and clamped a curfew in the worst-hit districts last week. Demands for more than two dozen new states have burst into mutinous life, and the strikes and protests could redraw India's political map.

Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission

Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Special Meeting on Monday, September 9, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference room.

AGENDA

- I. Preliminary
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
- II. Public Comments¹
- III. Reports
 - a. Chair's Report
 - b. Executive Director's Report
- IV. Unfinished Business
 - a. Decision re: Motion for Reconsideration of TCGCC Order No. 13-001-05212013
 - b. Proposed TCGCC FY2014 Budget
- V. New Business
 - a. Casino Employee License Applications
- VI. Executive Session²
- VII. Miscellaneous / Administrative Matters
- VIII. Adjournment

¹ Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Where your heart and mind go to work

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Disaster Program Manager

This position is responsible for the implementation of the disaster services program in the CNMI which leads and manages a volunteer team responsible for the implementation of disaster preparedness, response, and recovery programs.

For a full description of this position and application please visit our website at:

<https://www.americanredcross.apply2jobs.com>

Keyword: 36202

The American Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that employs growth and development, team spirit, competitive salaries and a comprehensive benefits package.



We are proud to be an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer M/F/D/V

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP13-CHCC-160**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

**"VENDOR HOSTED DIRECT SECURE MESSAGING SYSTEM FOR
THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"**

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MAY BE SENT TO chie@tipa.net WITH THE SUBJECT EMAIL MESSAGE BEING: "DSM RFP QUESTION" NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **SEPTEMBER 10, 2013.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS AND WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID PROPOSAL THAT DOES NOT AFFECT THE ELEMENTS OF PRICE, QUALITY, AND DELIVERY OF THE PRODUCT OR SERVICE IF IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL BID DOCUMENTS WILL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC INTERIM CEO

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
MVA-RFP-13-2323**

For: Purchase and Installation of Optical Mark Reflex Scanner System for the Marianas Visitors Authority

Closing Date: September 24, 2013 Time: 4:30 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (closed 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.) Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at www.mymarianas.com. A pre-proposers meeting will take place on September 10, 2013 at 9:00a.m. at the Marianas Visitors Authority.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

World

Al-Qaida-linked Syria rebels hit Christian village in west

BEIRUT (AP)—Al-Qaida-linked rebels launched an assault Wednesday on a regime-held Christian village in the densely populated west of Syria and new clashes erupted near the capital, Damascus—part of a brutal battle of attrition each side believes it can win despite more than two years of deadlock.

As the world focused on possible U.S. military action against Syria, rebels commandeered a mountaintop hotel in the village of Maaloula and shelled the community below, said a nun, speaking by phone from a convent in the village. She spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals.

The attack came hours before a Senate panel voted to give President Barack Obama authority to use military force

against Syria—the first time lawmakers have voted to allow military action since the October 2002 votes authorizing the invasion of Iraq.

The measure, which cleared the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on a 10-7 vote, was altered at the last minute to support “decisive changes to the present military balance of power” in Syria’s civil war, though it ruled out U.S. combat operations on the ground. It was expected to reach the full Senate floor next week.

The Syria conflict, which began with a popular uprising in March 2011, has been stalemated, and it’s not clear if U.S. military strikes over the regime’s alleged chemical weapons use would change that. Obama has said he seeks limited pinpoint action to de-

ter future chemical attacks, not regime change.

Obama has been lobbying for international and domestic support for punishing President Bashar Assad’s regime, which the U.S. says fired rockets loaded with the nerve agent sarin on rebel-held areas near Damascus before dawn on Aug. 21, killing hundreds of civilians.

So far, however, he has won little international backing for action. Among major allies, only France has offered publicly to join the U.S. in a strike.

In a parliament debate, France’s Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault made a passionate appeal for intervention in Syria, placing the blame for the alleged chemical attack on Assad and warning that inaction could let him carry out more atrocities.

Obama defends surveillance programs anew

STOCKHOLM (AP)—President Barack Obama on Wednesday defended anew the United States’ controversial surveillance programs, trying to reassure Europeans that the National Security Agency’s spying apparatus acts in limited fashion to root out threats—even though recently revealed programs show a more widespread information-gathering effort.

“I can give assurances to the publics in Europe and around the world that we’re not going around snooping at people’s emails or listening to their phone calls,” Obama said in response to a Swedish reporter’s question during a

news conference with Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt as he began a whirlwind, 24-hour trip to Sweden. “What we try to do is to target very specifically areas of concern.”

Still, the president acknowledged that questions about privacy were likely to trail him in Europe—a continent that is protective of privacy rights—for some time. The issue also bubbled up during his trip to Germany in June, shortly after newspapers published reports based on documents leaked by former government contractor Edward Snowden.

Despite Obama’s assertions of a more narrow-scope effort,

the Snowden-leaked documents show the NSA collects and stores all kinds of data traveling through the Internet, including emails, video chats and instant messages. Under one such classified program, known as Prism, the government can obtain secret court orders and gather mass amounts of data from major Internet companies such as Google, Apple, Microsoft and Facebook.

The documents also revealed how other NSA programs can tap into trans-Atlantic fiber optic lines so the agency can collect and store raw Internet traffic, including email messages sent overseas.

France’s Francois Hollande, to the southwestern French town of Oradour-sur-Glane was the first by a serving German leader. The town is today a phantom village, with burned-out cars and abandoned buildings left as testimony to its history. On June 10, 1944—four days after the Allied D-Day landings in Normandy—an SS armored division herded hundreds of civilians into barns and a church, blocked the doors, and set the town on fire. A total of 642 men, women and children died.

Italy police: Patient stabs psychiatrist 40 times

ROME (AP)—Investigators in Italy say a patient stabbed his psychiatrist some 40 times, killing the woman during their appointment at a public health facility. Police said the attacker, a man in his 40s with a history of drug and alcohol abuse and a criminal record for drug dealing, was subdued by a colleague of the 52-year-old doctor. She had been meeting privately with the patient Wednesday in Bari, a city in the southern region of Puglia. Prosecutors said investigators were examining the attacker’s medical records to learn why he was under treatment. No motive for the attack was immediately known. Puglia’s health commissioner, Elena Gentile, said she was told that the attacker had sat calmly in the waiting room for 30 minutes before his appointment, showing no signs of agitation.

WORLD BRIEFS

Israeli proposal detailed in talks

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)—Israel has proposed leaving intact dozens of Jewish settlements and military bases in the West Bank as part of a package to establish a Palestinian state in provisional borders, a Palestinian official told The Associated Press on Wednesday, in the first detailed glimpse at recently relaunched peace talks. The official said the proposal is unacceptable to the Palestinians, underscoring the tough road ahead as the sides try to reach an agreement ending decades of conflict. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because Israel and the Palestinians have pledged to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry not to discuss the content of their talks with the media—a pledge that has largely held up until now. For their future state, the Palestinians seek the West Bank, east Jerusalem and Gaza Strip, territories captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war.

German leader visits site of French WWII massacre

ORADOUR-SUR-GLANE, France (AP)—With hugs and hand-holding in a solemn tribute to those killed, the presidents of Germany and France on Wednesday visited a ghost town left behind after the largest massacre in Nazi-occupied France nearly seven decades ago. The trip by German President Joachim Gauck, accompanied by



IS LOOKING FOR

Our Saipan Office

Airport Representative (10)

- Valid CNMI driver’s license required, knowledge in Japanese/Chinese/Korean language is preferred

Guest Service Representative (10)

- Excellent communication skills, computer literate, proficiency in Japanese/Chinese/Korean languages, previous experience in hospitality industry preferred

Our Tinian Business Site

- **Accounting Clerk (2)** - Previous experience in accounting preferred
- **Computer Technician (MIS) (1)** - Minimum 2 years experience.
- Formal training/education is strongly preferred
- **Bar Attendant (4)** - Minimum two years experience
- **Storekeeper (2)** - Must be able to lift and carry weight up to 50lbs
- **Waitstaff (Waiter/Waitress) (20)**
- **Lifeguard (2)** - Lifeguard Certification is required
- **Cooks (Cantonese Cuisine (3), Korean Cuisine (3), Western Cuisine (3))**
Minimum 2 years culinary experience, formal training /education in culinary arts is strongly preferred
- **Housekeeping Attendant (20)**
- **Engineering Staffs**
A/C Technician (2), Plumber (2), Electrician (2), Mechanic(2), Carpenter (2)
Minimum 2 years experience, formal training/education is strongly preferred
- **Cage Teller (7)**
Must have strong mathematical and money handling skills, minimum 2 years experience as Bank Teller or Cashier type occupation is preferred
- **Surveillance Operator (2)**
Minimum 1 year experience as Surveillance or CCTV operator
- **Security Officer (10)**
Must pass Physical Fitness Test
- **Guest Relation Officer (10)**
Excellent communication skills, computer literate, proficiency in Japanese/Chinese/Korean languages, must have excellent people skills.
- **VIP Host (10)**
Excellent communication skills, computer literate, proficiency in Japanese/Chinese/Korean languages, knowledge of casino games, minimum 2 years experience in Casino industry
- **Casino Dealer (60)***
1 year experience as Casino Dealer

* Interested applicants without experience may qualify for the Casino Dealer Training Program. Minimum of 10 qualified applicants.

Minimum qualification requirements for all positions listed

At least 18 years of age. High school graduate or equivalent.
Authorized to work in the US. Must be able to work flexible hours and night shift.
Good customer service, communication and interpersonal skills.

Employment Application Forms are available at
2/F Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino

or request through e-mail - tdh.hrd@pticom.com / Fax - (670) 328-1106

For Saipan Applicants - e-mail or fax to request and submit Application Form.
Completed application form and all necessary requirements must be submitted on or before **September 11, 2013 @ 6:00 p.m.**
Incomplete application will not be accepted

Science & Technology

Samsung unveils new smartwatch that makes calls

BERLIN (AP)—Nearly 70 years after Dick Tracy began wearing a two-way wrist radio in the funny pages, the technology that once seemed impossibly futuristic will be widely available by Christmas.

Samsung on Wednesday introduced a digital watch for the holiday season that will let users check messages with a glance at their wrists and have conversations secret agent-style.

So-called smartwatches have been around for several years. But so far, they have failed to attract much consumer interest. That may change with the Sam-



AP
A model touches wears a Samsung Galaxy Gear smartwatch in Berlin, Germany, Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013.

sung Galaxy Gear, which offers the company a chance to pull off the same as feat Apple did with the iPad—popularize a type of device that has lingered mostly unnoticed on store shelves.

The Gear must be linked wirelessly with a smartphone to perform its full range of functions. It acts as an extension to the phone by discreetly alerting users to incoming messages and calls on its screen, which mea-

sures 1.63 inches diagonally.

“With Gear, you’re able to make calls and receive calls without ever taking your phone out of your pocket,” Pranav Mistry, a member of Samsung’s design team, told reporters at the launch in Berlin ahead of the annual IFA consumer electronics show here.

Sony and Qualcomm also introduced smartwatches Wednesday. Apple Inc. is expected to release its own smartwatch, though it’s not clear yet when. The release of separate products from so many manufacturers could stir interest in smartwatches in general. Meanwhile, Google is working on Google Glass—a device designed to work like a smartphone and worn like a pair of glasses.

With smartphones and tablets now ubiquitous, electronics companies are trying to create a new category of products that put advanced computing

technology into everyday objects such as wristwatches and glasses. Research firm Gartner projects that wearable smart electronics will be a \$10 billion industry by 2016.

But Ramon Llamas, an analyst at research firm IDC, said many things have to go right for smartwatches to succeed. Llamas said the devices need to offer a range of useful applications that justify carrying around—and charging—another digital device.

“It can’t just be notifications of how many incoming messages you have,” he said. “Health applications seem to be the low-hanging fruit.”

For starters, the Gear will work with sporting and fitness apps such as RunKeeper, which tracks runs and other workouts.

Gartner analyst Carolina Milanesi believes it ought to do more, such as monitor a user’s pulse and other health information.

Putting video in the cloud can take hours

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I’m part of an educational group that teaches real estate professionals. To become a certified real estate instructor in our group, candidates must submit a 50-minute video of themselves teaching a class.

But I can’t find a way for them to upload such a long video, because the video files are too large for services such as YouTube. Is there a way to buy some cloud computing service where candidates could drag and drop their video files?—Mark Barker, Wayzata, Minn.

ANSWER: There is a way. But it might not be practical.

What you’re looking for is called a File Transfer Protocol service, which can upload and store big files in a remote data center. Despite its mysterious name, “the cloud” is just made up of remote data centers.

Companies that offer FTP service include OpenDrive, Dropbox and SkyDrive. For comparisons of several FTP services, and tips on what to look for, see <http://tinyurl.com/kzd26gt>.

But here’s the problem. It takes a long time to upload a 50-minute video, even with today’s Internet speeds.

A 50-minute video shot at 1080p high-definition contains about 4 gigabytes (billion bytes) of data. If you have a fast home data connection—say, Comcast service with 25 megabit (million bits per second) downloads and 5 megabit uploads—it will

take about two hours to upload a 4-gigabyte data file. For a person with a much slower Internet upload speed, say 1.5 megabits, the upload time will be between six and seven hours.

It might be a better idea to have your students burn their 50-minute videos to DVDs and send them to you via U.S. mail.

The most common DVD format is the single-sided, single-layer DVD that holds 4.7 gigabytes of data, just right for the 50-minute videos you want submitted.

Q: Are there any downloads available (either free or for a nominal fee) for creating return address labels?

I’m using OpenOffice, which does have an application for making labels, but the software makes it difficult to add clip art to the labels. (It places the clip art either above or below the address, not to the left of the address where I want it.)—Ron Bender, Richfield, Minn.

A: Here are a few label-making programs I found at CNET’s Download.com, a database of software that has been scanned to make sure it contains no malicious code. All offer free trial periods.

■ Label Maker Pro (\$60) at <http://tinyurl.com/nypa37j>

■ Easy Mail (\$35) at <http://tinyurl.com/kfxmles>

■ Label Designer Plus Deluxe (\$40) at <http://tinyurl.com/lrqaze4>

■ Small Business Publisher (\$55) at <http://tinyurl.com/jw-t9evz>

■ Print Designer Gold (\$60) at <http://tinyurl.com/mpf752c>

In Loving Memory

†Joaquina Cabrera Sablan

July 2, 1928 - August 29, 2013

In her New Life, She Now Joins:

Her Parents, †Manuel Castro Cabrera and †Dolores Charfauros Cabrera
Her Husband, †Felipe Camacho Sablan

Her Memories Will Forever Live in the Hearts of Her Children,

Manuel C. (Ange) & Margarita (Nita) G. Sablan and family
Dolores S. (Aringko) & John G. Moore and family
Nieves S. & Jose C. Tomokane and family
Lourdes C. Sablan and family
Maria S. (Wella) and Arnold I. Palacios and family
Asuncion S. (Bea) and Joaquin T. Quitugua and family
Felipe C. and Rebecca K. Sablan and family
Trinidad S. (Doll) and Juan D. Diaz and family

Her Brother In-Law Pedro C. Sablan and
Sisters In-Law Dolores A. Cabrera,
Fidelia S. Salas, and Antonia K. Sablan.

Joaquina will also be remembered by the families of her Siblings and In-Laws who have since left before her.

Nightly Rosary is being said from August 30 through September 6, 2013 at Kristo Rai Parish at 7:00 p.m.

On Saturday, September 7, 2013 her body will be escorted from Nuestra Senora Dela Paz (Cabrera Center) to Kristo Rai Parish at 7:30 am followed by Responso and Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am.

Please join us in prayer.
Thank you and Si Yu’us Ma’ase

The Family



Off the Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Age 3, hanging 10: Preschooler surfer is a natural
SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. (AP)—At age 3, Triston Gailey hangs ten. Ditching his Thomas the Tank Engine T-shirt for a wetsuit and life jacket, the preschooler rides the waves with the big boys on the Central California coast. Triston's father, Todd Gailey, tells the San Luis Obispo Tribune that his son started boogie boarding with his 6-year-old sister last year. But when the blond-haired toddler began standing up on the short board, his dad bought him a 5-foot-8 surfboard from Costco. Right away, Triston was turning heads as he perfected his form: poised and balanced, hands out in front as he rides waves to shore in Morro Bay. Todd Gailey, a life-long surfer, calls his son a "natural," and the most coordinated 3-year-old he's ever seen.

1,200 Calif. chickens to retire on the East Coast
SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—Their egg-laying days behind them, some 1,200 Northern California chickens are heading for a cozy retirement on the East Coast, where they will live outside of cages and have plenty of room to spread their wings. The Sac-

ramento Bee reports that an anonymous \$50,000 donation is funding Operation Chicken Airlift, which will send the hens on a cross-country cargo flight to upstate New York on Wednesday evening. From there the white Leghorn chickens will be ferried to different sanctuaries. Laying hens are generally too lean for human consumption and are usually slaughtered after they stop providing eggs.

UMass students feast on 15,000-pound fruit salad
AMHERST, Mass. (AP)—In what's become an annual tradition, the University of Massachusetts celebrated the start of the new academic year with a delicious, healthy, record-breaking dish. About 500 students and staff at the Amherst campus on Monday sliced, diced, pitted and peeled 150 varieties of fruit to create a salad weighing more than 15,000 pounds. The salad was mixed in a 15-foot diameter swimming pool. It included 20 varieties of apples weighing more than 3,600 pounds; 19 varieties of melon weighing more than 2,500 pounds; peaches; bananas; oranges; berries; and more exotic fruits including quince, passion fruit and rambutan. A Guinness World Records representative certified the record.

In Celebration of His New Life

CASIANO BENAVENTE MATSUNAGA

Lovingly known as "Cash"

Born to life on August 5, 1940 and was called to his Eternal Rest on September 1, 2013 at the age of 73.

In his New Life, He now joins:

MOTHER: †Ana Benavente Manibusan
FATHER: †Juan Blanco Matsunaga
REARED FATHER: †Jose Cabrera Manibusan
MOTHER IN-LAW: †Restituta P. Orfanel
FATHER IN-LAW: †Alfredo A. Orfanel
BROTHERS AND SISTERS AND IN-LAWS:
 †Fernando B. Matsunaga, †Frances B. Manibusan, †Nicolasa M./Vicente Cepeda, †Heronimo P./Candilaria Manibusan, †Rufina M./Pedro Tudela, †Sylvia M./Antonio Cabrera, †Vicente P./Maria Manibusan, †Josepha M./Santiago T. Camacho, †Rita M./Juan Santos, †Victoria M./Gregorio S. Sablan, †Abraham P./Bernadita A. Manibusan, †Luis P. Manibusan, and †Francisco B. Palacios

Grand Niece: †Julianna Dior Manglona Ogo

His Loving Memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Elsie O. Matsunaga

Children/Spouses/Grandchildren:

Basilio O. Matsunaga (Jonauh)
Alfred and **Ma. Kristina Matsunaga** (Nathalie Giselle and Gaberiel John)
Laura Ann Matsunaga and **Stanley Aldan** (LyAnces Juanay, Casiano Ramon, Tyrese Isaiah and Seth Dylan)
MaryRose Matsunaga & **Jeffrey Caleb Alejandro** (Frank Anthony)

Brothers & Sisters and In-Laws:

Francisco B./Nelda Manibusan & Children, Maria M./Moses Sibetang & Children, Dolores B. Manibusan & Children, Veronica Inocencia Palacios & Children, Lydia M./Paul Manglona & Children, Violeta D. Manibusan & Son.

He will also be missed by numerous Uncles, Aunties, Cousins, Nephews, Nieces, Godchildren & Friends.

Nightly Rosary is being said at San Vicente Parish at 5:30pm, followed by Mass at 6:00pm.

On Wednesday, September 11, 2013 at 7:30am, his remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora Dela Paz (Cabrera Center) to Mount Carmel Cathedral for viewing and last respects.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am, followed by the Interment Service at the Chalan Kanao Cemetery.

Please join us in prayer.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank you.

The Family

In Celebration of His New Life

†Jesse James Demapan Arriola

February 20, 1963 – August 31, 2013

In His New Life, He Now Joins His:

Daughter: †Rosalyn I. Arriola
Brothers: †Franklin D. Arriola
 †Manuel D. Arriola
Grandparents: †Francisco and Ana Demapan
 †Manuel and Kenye Arriola
Grandparents-in-law: †Jesus and Anuncia Palacios
 †Anselmo and Antonia Iglecias

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: **Judy Iglecias Arriola**
Children: **Jesse & Frances T. Pano**
 (Jessthan, Jaceanee, Jerythan)
Jonathan and Clarice DLG. Arriola
 (Ross Anthony, Keaton Ray)
Eugene Arriola and Alexandra Macabalo
 (Eugene Jr., Lexene)
Jesse James D. Arriola, Jr.
Jason Derick I. Arriola

Parents: Jesus S. and Magdalena D. Arriola
Parents-in-law: Joaquin M. & Jesusa P. Iglecias

Brothers, Sisters and In-Laws: Joaquin & Leony Norita and children, John & Elenita K. Arriola and children, Eugene Michael & Princess E. Arriola and children, Brenda D. Muna & Gregory Deleon Guerrero and children

Joaquin P. Iglecias and family, Anselmo P. Iglecias and family, Janet P. Iglecias and family, Alvin P. Iglecias and family, Rita P. Iglecias and family, Antonette P. Iglecias and family, Anuncia P. Iglecias and family

He will be greatly missed by numerous Aunties, Uncles, Cousins, Nieces, Nephews, Godchildren and friends.

Daily Mass of Intention is celebrated each evening at 06:00 p.m. at San Vicente Church followed by Holy Rosary.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, September 09, 2013. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Señora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 09:00 a.m. to San Vicente Church. Responso services will be at 09:30 a.m. followed by Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. followed by Interment Service at Chalan Kanao Cemetery where he will begin his peaceful rest.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYERS

Judy Iglecias Arriola, Children & Family

In Celebration of His New Life

†Baldobino Borja Flores

Lovingly known as "Bino"

Born on June 29, 1937 and was called to his eternal rest on September 02, 2013

In His New Life, He Now Joins His:

Parents: †Joaquin Aguon & †Antonia Borja Flores

His Memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Bessie Flores

Children and Spouses:

William & Thelma, children and grandchildren
Erwin & Tina, children and grandchildren
Antoinette
Anthony and children
Kenneth & Catherine and children
Raymond, children and granddaughter
Elizabeth & Katsuma and children
Jesse and children

Also, he is additionally survived by numerous Brothers, Sisters, In-Laws, Nieces, Nephews, Uncles, Aunts, Godchildren, Relatives and Friends

Mass of Intention is being offered at 6:00PM. Holy Rosary will be said at 7:15PM at San Vicente Church

Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2013. Our beloved's remains will be escorted from CHC to Santa Soledad Parish at 8:00AM for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:30AM immediately followed by interment service at Sanctuario Pax Memorial Garden in Kagman.

Your Prayers, Thoughts and Presence are greatly appreciated

Thank You – Si Yu'us Ma'ase

The Family

Life & Style

Harper joins 'Dancing With the Stars' competition

NEW YORK (AP)—Busy cancer patient Valerie Harper leads a class of 12 amateur hoofers in the upcoming 17th season of "Dancing With the Stars."

The cast was revealed Wednesday on ABC's "Good Morning America." For a show that has reached an increasingly older audience, ABC added an injection of youth with reality stars Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi of "Jersey Shore" and Ozzy's kid Jack Osbourne.

Harper has defied odds with her survival since being diagnosed earlier this year with brain cancer. She recently filmed a movie role and joined a Nick at Nite reunion of "The Mary Tyler Moore" cast.

A brain scan last month showed improvement for the 74-year-old former sitcom star, whose doctors say her cancer is getting close to remission. She will have her next scan in October.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Harper said that so far, she's not taking any precautions when she's rehearsing.

"He (pro partner Tristan MacManus) says, 'Do you want to get water?' Which is great because I don't drink enough water but (that's) not to do with the cancer ... (it's) not an impediment to dancing and I just try to stay healthy and continue to lose weight so I look halfway decent in the costumes," she said with a laugh.

Harper said of her decision to join the show: "There's a (Lee Ann Womack) country song (with the lyrics) 'when you get the choice you sit it out or



dance/ I hope you dance.'"

Other contestants on the new season of "Dancing," which premieres Sept. 16, are Bill Nye, the "Science Guy"; "Pretty Little Liars" actor Brant Daugherty; former NFL wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson; singer-actress Christina Milian; actress Elizabeth Berkley; "High School Musical" actor Corbin Bleu; "Glee" actress Amber Ri-

ley; country comic Bill Engvall; and "King of Queens" actress Leah Remini.

The celebrities and their pro partners, minus Remini and dancer Tony Dovolani, all made the trek to New York to promote the show's return.

Although still a ratings winner for ABC in its 16th season, the celebrity dancing contest has seen its overall audience

decline and grow older, an issue for networks that get higher commercial ad rates for younger viewers.

"Dancing" will now air once a week on Mondays rather than Mondays and Tuesdays.

"One day a week is fine with me! I need more time to rehearse," said Milian.

"You get all the action in one night. It's all killer, no filler,"

This image released by ABC shows, standing from left, NFL wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson, comic Bill Engvall, TV personality Jack Osbourne, actor Corbin Bleu, Bill Nye, the "Science Guy," actor Brant Daugherty, and seated from left, TV personality Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi, actress Valerie Harper, singer-actress Christina Milian, actress Elizabeth Berkley and actress Amber Riley on "Good Morning America," Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013 in New York. These 11 celebrities, along with actress Leah Remini, will be the next celebrity contestants on the dance competition series "Dancing with the Stars," premiering Sept. 16.

said her partner, Mark Ballas.

And with younger contestants like Bleu, Daugherty and Riley, the show might skew to a more youthful demo.

There are changes behind the scenes, too. There are new professional dancers, plucked from the show's troupe. Contestants are starting off with a four-hour rehearsal limit per day that will hopefully cut down on injuries and fatigue.

The pros were mixed on whether they liked the time constraint and said it could change as the season goes on and they have to do more than one dance per show.

"Now that we have a restricted time, I feel like we're gonna get more done," said Derek Hough.

"That I don't like," said Karina Smirnoff. "Four hours is tough."

"Every single time that last hour (of rehearsal) ends up coming up with both of us going, 'Oh no. It's not there yet,'" said her partner Bleu.

Smirnoff said she believes as the season progresses, the rehearsals might get longer.

The one thing the audience likely won't see is twerking, a dance that's been in the spotlight thanks to Miley Cyrus' performance at the MTV Video Music Awards.

"I don't think that's relevant to anything that has to do with class," said dancer Val Chmerkovskiy. "I keep it classy. I want my partners to keep it classy. Twerking is not on the menu."

Fantasia prepares for Broadway under watchful eye

NEW YORK (AP)—The first rehearsal of Fantasia Barrino's upcoming Broadway show was, to be fair, a little rough.

No sooner had the "American Idol" and Grammy Award winner opened her mouth to sing "I Can't Give You Anything but Love" than she was gently stopped, mid-phrase.

The man asking her to stop? Nine-time Grammy winner Wynton Marsalis.

"That was very good," he told her. "I just want you to concentrate and do it again. Let your instincts take over."

They were preparing for "After Midnight," a musical celebrating Duke Ellington's years at the famous Cotton Club nightclub. Fantasia will be the star; Marsalis the musical director.

On this day—their initial meeting for the show around a piano in a studio at the home of Jazz at Lincoln Center—their roles were different. He was the professor and she was the eager student.

He taught her that Billie Holiday often sang using quarter note triplets, that you can usually detect African rhythms beneath most blues songs, and that to scat correctly would take at least two years of study.

"You need to check out Dinah Washington," the trumpeter and composer told his 29-year-old charge, who was dressed in black leggings and a T-shirt reading "Love Is the New Red." Marsalis wore a sharp gray suit

with a pocket square.

Washington, he said, had an empathetic voice that seemed to always tell the truth. "You have that same quality," he told her. "When you listen to her, you'll notice that."

"Do you have any records that I could listen to?" she asked.

"Yeah, we'll give you a whole list," he said.

At one point, Marsalis nudged aside the rehearsal pianist at the Steinway to offer Fantasia his own half-dozen interpretations of the opening lines of "I Can't Give You Anything but Love," elongating some syllables, breaking up others.

"You see what I mean about varying your phrasing?" he asked.

Asked after the session how it was to learn so much, the singer gushed: "Excuse me when I say this, but it almost felt like a musical orgasm. I was just sitting there going, 'Oh my God!'"

An hour or so into the rehearsal, the duo moved on to their second song—"Stormy Weather," made famous by Holiday and Lena Horne. "This is a very different kind of song," Marsalis warned. "This is more a dramatic song."

Fantasia, who won 2004's "American Idol" and has put out four CDs including the new "Side Effects of You," let her voice get breathy as she negotiated the tricky standard.

"Rain pourin' down, blindin' every hope I had," she sang. "This pitter and patter and beat-



This undated image released by The O+M Company shows former "American Idol" winner Fantasia Barrino, left, and Grammy Award-winning composer and musician Wynton Marsalis rehearsing songs at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York for "After Midnight," a musical celebrating Duke Ellington's years at the famous Cotton Club nightclub.

ing, spattering drives me mad / Love, love, love, love ..." She trailed off.

"I lost the rhythm," she said, sadly.

"But I love the way you said 'love.' You made me believe something about love," said her teacher, immediately sending a wide smile blooming on Fantasia's face.

At one point during the session, the student seems to want to get something off her chest. "Can I tell you something about me?" she asked, embarrassed. "I don't read music."

Marsalis smiled. Did she think this scion of a family of world famous jazz musicians and a decorated musicologist

with so many Grammys and a Pulitzer Prize didn't notice?

"I know you don't. You're not looking at the music when you're singing," he said, laughing.

But Marsalis doesn't judge—nobody read music in New Orleans when he was being raised. "It doesn't matter to me. I grew up with great musicians who couldn't read," he said. "My daddy always said, 'If you play music you don't need to read it.'"

Marsalis may have an encyclopedic knowledge of music but he's not above mocking himself. He tells the story of trying to impress Sarah Vaughan as a 22-year-old by playing the obscure Duke Ellington song "Tonight I Shall Sleep (With a

Smile on My Face)."

When he was finished, the legendary Vaughan told the young man: "That's beautiful, baby, but it's in the wrong key. Let me show you how it goes."

At the session, Marsalis and Fantasia work on their approaches—and it is agonizing slow work. When the musical opens its doors at the Brooks Atkinson Theatre on Oct. 18, there will be 17 musicians in the pit and Fantasia and co-star Dule Hill and two dozen performers will be asked to capture the sound and glamour of the Harlem Renaissance.

But on this day, a single lyric gets the same treatment as a Biblical passage in Sunday school. Marsalis stops at one line—"If he stays away, old rockin' chair will get me"—and the two discuss its meaning.

"Look into the lyrics of these songs. Think about it. There's more than meets the eye," he said.

Two hours after it began, the initial session in mid-August ends and Fantasia leaves with homework: lists of recordings and several vocal exercises. Student and teacher hug at the end. They'll meet again and again as she masters the material.

"I really want to make him proud," she said as he left.

This isn't the first time Marsalis and Fantasia have crossed paths. When she was 22, she joined Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra as a guest vocalist for their 2007 fall gala. He recalled her as a woman with poise and skill.

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Connick: Expect the unexpected from 'Idol' team

BOSTON (AP)—New “American Idol” judge Harry Connick Jr. says to “expect the unexpected” from him and fellow judges Jennifer Lopez and Keith Urban.

The trio held a tryout Wednesday in Boston for the Fox show’s upcoming season, which begins in January.

“I mean, I didn’t know what to expect, and Keith and Jennifer have both done it before, and I think the whole fun of it is not knowing what to expect,” Connick said.

The jazz singer and musician has been an “Idol” mentor. Lopez was a judge in 2011 and 2012 before taking a year off to tour. Urban was a judge last season, often caught between bickering divas Mariah Carey and Nicki Minaj.

Lopez didn’t comment on whether her return will help boost ratings, but she said “we are off to a great start with the talent in this season.” Other tryouts are being held Atlanta; Austin, Texas; Detroit; Omaha, Neb.; Salt Lake City and San Francisco.

Lopez was asked if she has ad-



This 2013 publicity photo released by FOX shows judges, from left, Keith Urban, Jennifer Lopez and Harry Connick Jr. for FOX’s “American Idol XIII.”

vice for Connick. Urban joked, “Yeah, shut the hell up,” just as Lopez said “less talking.”

But Urban quipped that no talking “won’t twerk,” playing on the recent buzz about Miley Cyrus’ dance performance with Robin Thicke at the MTV Video Music Awards.

Connick said they’ll never run

out of interesting things to say if they focus on the contestants.

“What I really dig sitting up here as I watch Jennifer and Keith, they are processing every single person individually ... you really have to take each person seriously and as a singular performance,” Connick said.

He said that makes it exciting

for viewers “because they think that you are vested—which we are.”

Broadway charity auction offers Tom Hanks T-shirt

NEW YORK (AP)—A T-shirt worn onstage by Tom Hanks in “Lucky Guy” and Elphaba’s broom prop used by Idina Menzel in “Wicked” are among the top items that will be auctioned off Sept. 22 at the annual Broadway Flea Market and Grand Auction.

Bidders will be able to snap up signed memorabilia from more than a dozen Broadway shows, meet-and-greet opportunities with stars and even win walk-on roles at “Chicago,” “Cinderella,” “Kinky Boots,” “The Lion King,” “Mamma Mia!,” “Once,” “The Phantom of the Opera” and “Rock of Ages.” Other prizes include lunch with Angela Lansbury and Judith Light.

All proceeds go to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. Free and open to the public, the outdoor event takes place all day along West 44th Street and in Shubert Alley.

Designer Michael Kors takes success in stride

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Kors is having a moment.

Business is booming, shares in his lifestyle brand hit an all-time high last month and he was honored Wednesday with the 2013 Couture Council Award for Artistry of Fashion. But the 54-year-old fashion designer isn’t letting the success go to his head.

“Things really haven’t changed; it’s just gotten a bigger scale. We’re not just thinking about America, we’re thinking about the world,” said Kors in an interview Wednesday. “But for me it’s always the excitement of what I’m working on and what’s the next project.”

Oscar winner Hilary Swank

presented Kors with the award from The Couture Council of The Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology.

“I count myself among the diverse echelon of women who wear his clothes, which include Angelina Jolie, Blake Lively, Jennifer Lopez, Gwyneth Paltrow, Sigourney Weaver and Mrs. Obama, to name just a few,” Swank told the crowd at the Lincoln Center luncheon. “Michael understands and appreciates women and his clothes reflect that.”

Past award recipients include Oscar de la Renta, Valentino and Karl Lagerfeld.

Vogue’s Anna Wintour and models Doutzen Kroes and

Iman were on hand to celebrate Kor’s accomplishments.

“I have known Michael for, God who knows, over 25 years and he’s been a dear friend,” recalled Iman before the ceremony. “He’s just extraordinary. He’s a gifted gabber. So he has a gift of storytelling. But most importantly, I think he makes consistently—year in and year out—women look the best that they can ever look.”

But for Kors, there’s little time to soak up the accolades. He’s got a runway show to prepare for next week during New York Fashion Week.

“You know I’m so busy, quite frankly, and thank God I’ve got a lot of energy,” he said.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Dr. Seuss books coming out as e-books

NEW YORK (AP)—Dozens of Dr. Seuss classics, including “The Cat in the Hat” and “Green Eggs and Ham,” will be available this year as e-books. Random House Children’s Books announced Wednesday that the first 15 will come out Sept. 24, followed by additional publications in October and November. Other Seuss picture books coming out electronically include “Fox in Socks,” “Horton Hears a Who!” and “Oh, the Places You’ll Go!”

Rumsfeld docu director puzzled by ex-defense chief

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Director Errol Morris spent 33 hours interviewing Donald Rumsfeld for his new documentary “The Unknown Known.” But Morris says the former U.S. defense secretary proved hard to fathom. The director said Wednesday at the Venice Film Festival that he cannot tell if Rumsfeld, who narrates the film, was putting on a “performance” or being himself.

“The Unknown Known” is competing for the top Golden Lion award. Morris’ “The Fog of War” won an Oscar in 2003 for its look at Robert McNamara, secretary of defense during the escalation of the Vietnam War. His latest documentary analyzes the U.S. decision to go to war in Afghanistan and Iraq. It includes clips from Pentagon news conferences as it offers an unflinching look at Rumsfeld’s career through his own words.

Steven Tyler gives surprise show at Nashville club

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)—Aerosmith singer Steven Tyler made a surprise appearance at a small Nashville club and performed two songs before the audience was ushered out for the next show. The rocker was in the audience Tuesday night at the Bluebird Cafe watching songwriters perform. The 90-seat venue is where many country music singers first got their break and where many established artists often stop by to play a few

songs or listen. Songwriter Marti Frederiksen invited Tyler to sing “Jaded,” which Frederiksen co-wrote. Tyler then jumped on the piano to belt out the band’s power ballad “Dream On.” Tyler told The Associated Press that he had never performed in a room that small and that he was in Nashville to write songs.

Julie Andrews, Tina Fey to salute Carol Burnett

WASHINGTON (AP)—Julie Andrews, Tony Bennett, Tina Fey and Amy Poehler will honor Carol Burnett as she receives the top U.S. humor prize in Washington. The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is awarding Burnett the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor on Oct. 20. The lineup of entertainers who will salute Burnett on stage also includes Maya Rudolph, Martin Short and Lucie Arnaz, the daughter of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz. Burnett became famous playing a variety of characters in sketch comedy routines for 11 years on TV’s “The Carol Burnett Show.” She had her breakout

on Broadway in “Once Upon a Mattress” while also appearing on morning TV.

Human rights group hits Kanye for Kazakhstan trip

NEW YORK (AP)—The Human Rights Foundation is criticizing Kanye West for performing at a wedding in Kazakhstan, saying he legitimized the human rights violations of the nation’s president. The rapper performed at the wedding of Nursultan Nazarbayev’s grandson Saturday. The U.S.-based human rights group compared his appearance to a similar visit earlier this year by Jennifer Lopez to Turkmenistan, another country with a history of human rights violations. HRF President Thor Halvorssen says in a statement that the Central Asian country is a “human rights wasteland” where entertainers like West would be imprisoned for expressing their views. The foundation says Nazarbayev curbs political rights and suppresses the media.

Sister’s fantasy of father is a far cry from reality

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have a half-sister with whom I share a mother. Her father and my mother were married for almost 10 years. This man, I believe, had some mental issues. He would quiz me about my sexual relations with my boyfriend at the time, wanting details. He would often fly off the handle and argue with my mother for no reason. There are too many other examples to list. Quite frankly, he was a horrible husband and father.

This man died two years ago. My half-sister has since immortalized her father into someone he was not. She even tattooed his initials on her wrist.

Abby, how is a person supposed to deal with a relative who is living in fantasyland about a parent? His widow has sent her emails telling her the kind of man he really was, but she continues to act as if he was the world’s best father even though he wasn’t.

KNOWS THE TRUTH

DEAR KNOWS THE TRUTH: Either your former step-father was the greatest father in the world to HER, or your half-sister needs the fantasy she’s clinging to for her emotional well-being. Let her have her fantasy if it comforts her. If she raises the subject of good old dad with you, just tell her you’d prefer not to discuss it. If you do that, you’ll both be happier.

DEAR ABBY: I’m 31 and the mother of three awesome children. At 29, I left my husband of nine years and came out of the closet. I have been in a stable two-year relationship with my girlfriend, and she recently moved in with us.

My oldest child has started asking if his friends can come and stay the night on a weekend. I let one child spend the night with him once. My sister asked me if I had told the child’s parent that I’m a lesbian living with a partner. When I said no, she got upset and said that because we live in a small, religious country town I should inform the child’s parent of my living situation.

I can see where she’s coming from, but I don’t feel it’s my responsibility to offer this personal information. We’re hard-working, law-abiding citizens, and I am a loving and protective mother. We aren’t felons who need to “disclose” our personal “crimes.” What do you think?

PROUD MAMA IN THE SOUTH

DEAR PROUD MAMA: I, too, can see where your sister is coming from, and I don’t like the direction. You are not under any obligation to announce your sexual orientation to anyone. In a small town—religious or not—word gets around quickly on its own. Trust me on that. However, if you are asked directly, you should be honest.

DEAR ABBY: Our daughter was married recently. During the wedding or the reception, someone stole money from the purses of at least two of the bridesmaids.

Are the bride’s parents responsible for the loss?

MOTHER OF THE BRIDE IN ALABAMA

DEAR MOTHER OF THE BRIDE: What happened was unfortunate, and I hope the lesson the bridesmaids learned from this wasn’t an expensive one. Unless you agreed to look after the young women’s belongings, you are not responsible for the loss. They should have left their purses with someone they trusted or secured in a locked room or car.

As a gesture of good will, depending upon the state of your finances, you might want to make good on their loss. But you are not required to do so.

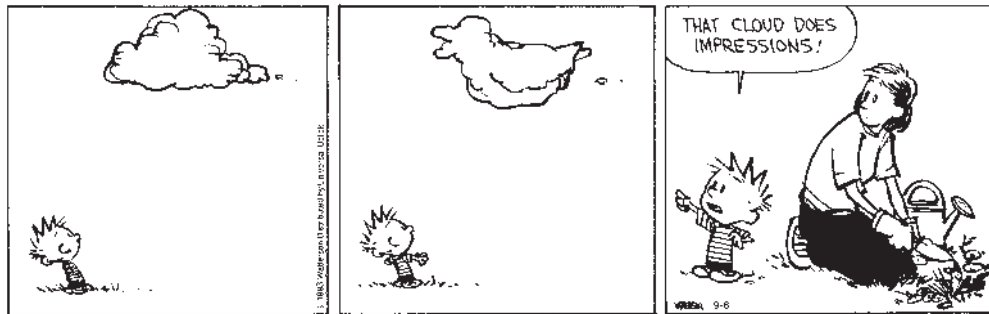
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: “Abby’s Favorite Recipes” and “More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



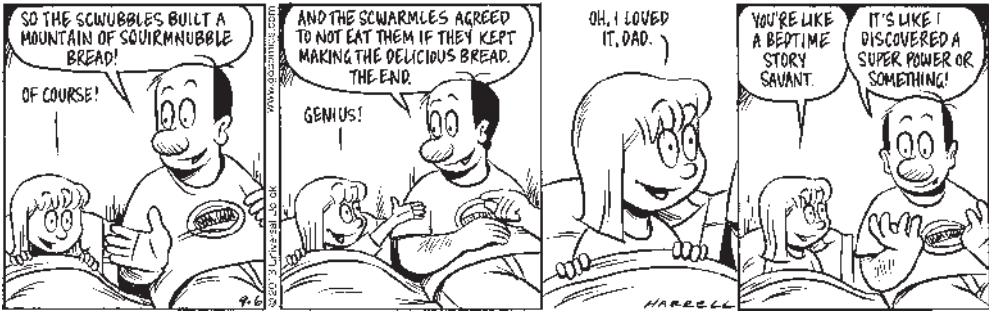
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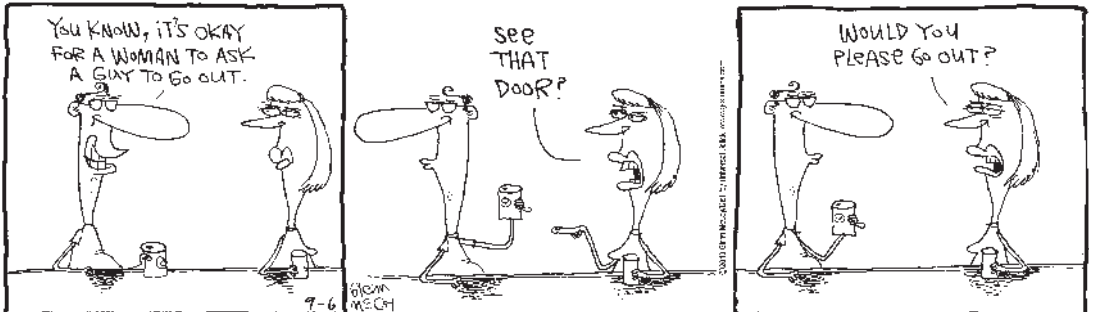
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

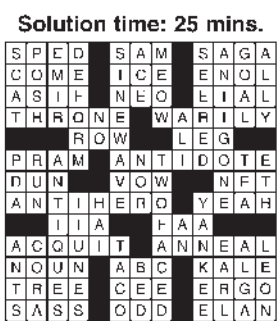
By Glenn McCoy



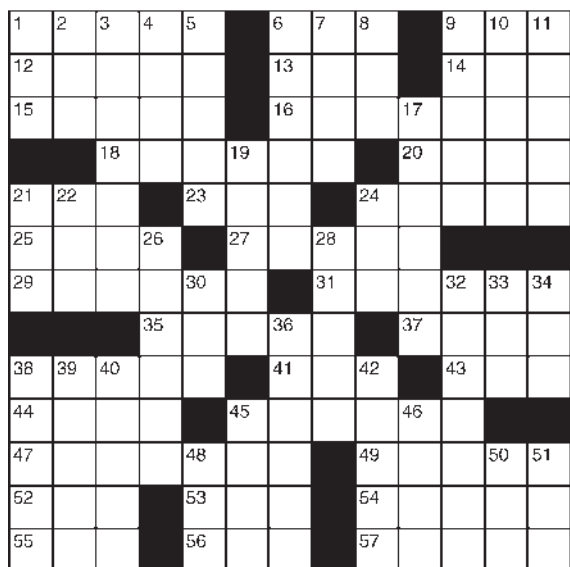
CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 No-see-um
6 No teetotaler
9 Dos Passos trilogy
12 Perfect
13 Weep
14 Court barrier
15 Trunks
16 Criticizes
18 Harlem theater
20 Field mouse
21 — Baba
23 Clavell's "— -Par"
24 High IQ group
25 Quasi-modo's concern
27 Claw
29 Type of seed
31 Sweater type
35 Blended
37 Way out
38 Fails as a performer
41 2007 Super Bowl number
- DOWN**
- 43 Male cat
44 Mimicked
45 Cinco de Mayo celebration
47 Laments loudly
49 Pork cuts
52 Before
53 Bumped into
54 Shoelace tip
55 Young fellow
56 Faux —
57 Saunter
- 3 Throws off the track**
4 React in horror
5 "Cats" inspirer
6 Justice Antonin
7 Roughly
8 Cobb and others
9 Striking group
10 Markets
11 Bewildered
17 Seek justice
19 Rubbery stuff
21 Tummy muscles
22 Shelter
- 24 Calendar abbr.**
26 Greek consonant
28 Tureen
30 Wrong (Pref.)
32 Beefy soup ingredients
33 Carnival city
34 \$ dispenser
36 Is
38 Tower of —
39 La Scala show
40 Spoke like a kitten
42 Moham-medanism
45 Dog bane
46 Take-out request
48 Mischievous tyke
50 Born
51 Pigs' digs



Yesterday's answer 9-6



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Pippa Middleton, 30; Greg Rusedski, 40; Rosie Perez, 49; Swoosie Kurtz, 69.

Happy Birthday: Put greater emphasis on home and family. Make the changes that will bring you greater comfort, less stress and enhance your ties to the people you want to spend the most time with. Clear up debt and avoid lending, borrowing or giving handouts. Offer knowledge and expertise, not your hard-earned cash. Mix business with pleasure this year and excel. Your numbers are 9, 11, 20, 24, 33, 35, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotional highs and lows will fluctuate with work, health and pet issues. Be ready to step into action and deal with each situation that arises with care. What you do will be a testimony to how responsible, skillful and caring you are. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A philosophical transformation due to an incident at work or with a colleague will transpire. Take a moment and collect your thoughts. There may be a way you can use what you discover to avoid a problem at home. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your emotions will guide you surprisingly well if you relax and let life unfold naturally. Disagreements can be expected, but the result will bring you closer to someone with more to offer. Change is good and can bring good fortune. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't flip-flop when it comes to decisions that can influence your life. Talks will lead to

reasonable solutions. A promise you make will result in a unique lifestyle change. It's time to explore new interests, people and places. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Plan to take a trip. Whether it's just across town to visit a friend, or to a destination you've never been before, embrace the experience you have and learn whatever you can. A new look, image or attitude will enhance your life. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Relax and live a little. You can take care of your responsibilities and still have fun. Let others take care of what needs to be done while you enjoy being entertained. An unusual partnership will change your outlook on life. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't hesitate. If you see an opportunity, figure out a way to take advantage of what's being offered. Your take-charge attitude will be impressive and lead to an unusual encounter with someone you will want to get to know better. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): What you do for someone will not be forgotten. Make adjustments to the way you present what you have to offer, and it will broaden your options regarding future job prospects. An unusual change to the way you live will pay off. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't count on anything or anyone. The information you receive will not be based on what's actually possible. You'll have to rely on your own efforts and finances if you want to get ahead. Be realistic when you assess your situation. **

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Share your concerns and your plans. You'll get the undivided attention of someone you respect and want to get to know better. Don't let the changes an old friend or lover makes cause you to miss out on something you want. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A pending matter can be dealt with successfully. Appeal from the heart and use your charm and innovative ideas to get your way. Love is on the rise, and romance and passion will enhance your personal life. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You can play to win. Put your talents to the test and opportunities will unfold. Socialize and you will expand your contacts to include some very special individuals who have something unique to contribute to your life. ***

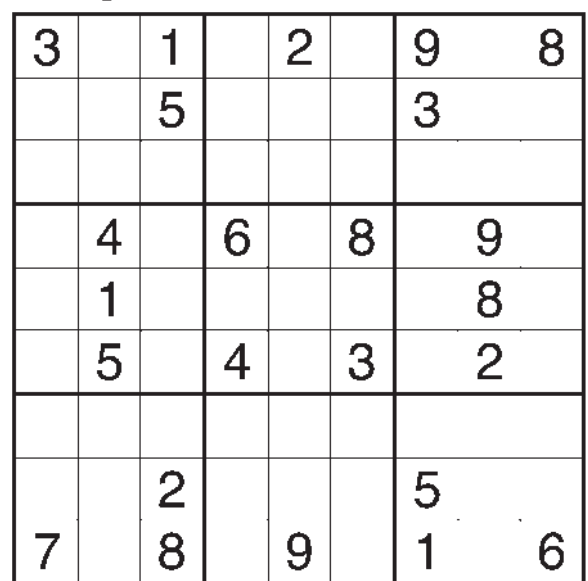
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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

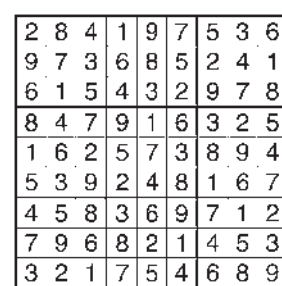


Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CANDY CRUSH SAGA (GAME)

Solution: 5 letters



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Align, Blue, Board, Bomb, Bonus, Bridge, Canyon, Chocolate, Coconut, Collapse, Drop, Game, Green, King, Lake, Lemonade, Licorice, Locked, Lollipop, Marmalade, Meadow, Mega, Minty, Mobile, Move, Obstacles, Orange, Player, Points, Purple, Puzzle, Rainbow, Rows, Same, Score, Square, Striped, Sugar, Super, Swap, Target, Three, Time, Vertical, Yellow, Yeti
Yesterday's Answer: Sumba
THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 34 s "Celebrities Vol. 3." To purchase, call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at wonderworduniversaljclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd
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Interested applicants must submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by September 14, 2013. Applications may also be sent to: mpk@dandq-international.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #02-2013

Opening date: August 30, 2013 Closing date: September 13, 2013

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position:

(2) ARFF Trainee (Saipan)	(1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Rota)
(2) AOA Controller-I (Saipan)	(1) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Tinian)
(3) Ports Police Trainee (Saipan)	(1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Tinian)
(1) Receptionist/Secretary (Saipan)	(2) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Rota)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, September 13, 2013.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA Human Resources by email at acmanahane@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

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MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Acting Executive Director

WHATZIT Solution: Elvis has left the building

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Nadal beats Robredo easily to return to US Open SF



NEW YORK
(AP)—It's as though

Rafael Nadal never left.

If anything, he's playing better than ever.

A year after skipping the U.S. Open because of a bad knee, Nadal powered his way back to the semifinals at Flushing Meadows, overwhelming 19th-seeded Tommy Robredo 6-0, 6-2, 6-2 on Wednesday night.

"I'm sure that's the way I have to play to keep having chances to be successful in every surface, but especially on this one," said the second-seeded Nadal, who is 20-0 on hard courts in 2013. "I was able to do it today. I hope to be able to do it in two days."

On Saturday, Nadal will face No. 8 Richard Gasquet, who edged No. 4 David Ferrer 6-3, 6-1, 4-6, 2-6, 6-3.

That one took nearly 3 1/2 hours, and was filled with plenty of ebbs and flows, allowing Gasquet to reach his first major semifinal in six years.

Nadal, meanwhile, was never challenged even the slightest bit by Robredo, who was coming off a fourth-round upset of 17-time Grand Slam champion Roger Federer. That stunning result scuttled the possibility of a Nadal-Federer showdown, which would have been the rivals' 32nd meeting on tour, but first at the U.S. Open.

Robredo had been 0-10 against Federer before finally beating him Monday. Perhaps that allowed Robredo to enter Wednesday believing he'd have a chance against Nadal, despite an 0-6 mark in their previous matches.

So much for that. This one lasted 1 hour, 40 minutes, and it really was over after 22 minutes. That's how long it took Nadal to dominate the first set, not only winning every game but also 24 of 29 points, including all seven that lasted 10 strokes or more.

"I played great the first set," Nadal said. "It's my first set so far this year 100 percent."

That's really saying something, considering that he is 58-3 this season with nine titles, including his record eighth championship at the French Open in June. At the next Grand Slam tournament, though, Nadal flopped, exiting in the first round at Wimbledon.

That surprising defeat, against a guy ranked 135th, came on June 24. Feels like eons ago. Nadal hasn't lost a match to anyone since. His 12 major trophies include the 2010 U.S. Open, and he has reached at least the semifinals the past five times he entered the tournament. Nadal did not come to New York in 2012, part of about a seven-month absence due mainly to a left knee problem.



Rafael Nadal, of Spain, celebrates after defeating Tommy Robredo, of Spain, 6-0, 6-2, 6-2 during the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013, in New York.

No sign of that Wednesday. "He was up very quick," said Robredo, who is 0-7 in Grand Slam quarterfinals, "and then there was nothing else to do. He was too good."

It took Robredo 39 minutes to finally win a game, the ninth of the match, and some fans stood to applaud, probably hoping for a more competitive evening of tennis. At

the changeover moments later, the videoboards in Arthur Ashe Stadium showed Donald Trump in his suite, and the cheers turned to boos.

With loud grunts, Nadal

announced his violent, upercut forehands, and they cut through the 20 mph wind, thick with spin, landing right near lines.

Through two sets, Nadal compiled a 19-2 edge in winners—the final tally was 28-10—and that forehand of his also forced Robredo into plenty of errors. Actually, every aspect of Nadal's game worked.

One backhand lob was curled so well, Robredo tossed his racket up in the air toward the ball, knowing he had no chance of reaching the perfectly placed shot. Nadal never faced a break point, and through five matches so far in New York this year, he has not lost serve once, a run of 67 games.

Nadal played at the French Open and Wimbledon with tape below his left knee, but not at the U.S. Open. He looks healthy as can be, covering the court well and tracking down shot after shot by his opponents.

Now Nadal becomes Gasquet's problem. They've played 10 times on tour, and Nadal has won all 10.

"Last time I beat him, I was 13," Gasquet said, referring to a junior match he looked up on YouTube. "It was a long time ago."

When Nadal was told about that, he smiled broadly.

"Yeah, I think I lost 6-4 in the third," Nadal said. "Yeah, I remember."

The other two men's quarterfinals are Thursday, with No. 1 Novak Djokovic against No. 21 Mikhail Youzhny, and No. 3 Andy Murray against No. 9 Stanislas Wawrinka. Murray beat Djokovic in last year's U.S. Open final.

In the women's semifinals Friday, No. 1 Serena Williams faces No. 5 Li Na, and No. 2

Victoria Azarenka plays unseeded Flavia Pennetta.

Azarenka and Pennetta won their quarterfinals Wednesday.

Azarenka, a two-time Australian Open champion and last year's runner-up to Williams at Flushing Meadows, eliminated 48th-ranked Daniela Hantuchova 6-2, 6-3.

The 83rd-ranked Pennetta, who missed the 2012 U.S. Open because of right wrist surgery, reached her first Grand Slam semifinal with a 6-4, 6-1 victory over 10th-seeded Roberta Vinci.

Pennetta spoke Wednesday about sitting at her parents' place in Italy, watching on TV as the U.S. Open went on without her. She was asked whether, at the time, she could have imagined playing at this level 12 months later.

"I hoped so. It's what I hoped for at the start of this year, to be honest. It didn't happen as easily or as quickly as I'd hoped," she said. "But I definitely hoped."

Nadal, too, was far away when the 2012 tournament took place, at home on the Spanish island of Mallorca.

He was concerned about how long it would take his knee to recover, how long it would take for him to play well.

And between then and now, he worked with Toni Nadal, his uncle and coach, on improving his hard-court game.

Things seem to be going to plan so far.

In an interview during ESPN's coverage of the match, Toni Nadal said it "was necessary" to change the way Rafael plays on hard courts.

"Rafael has problems in his knees, and we talked about playing more aggressive and more near the baseline," Uncle Toni said. "At the moment, (it's) going good."

Concussion deal may not be end of NFL legal battle

By **MICHAEL MAROT**
AP SPORTS WRITER



The NFL's concussion settlement may not have settled anything.

On Wednesday, two former Super Bowl champions—Troy Aikman and John Lynch, now Fox Sports broadcasters—contended the league has more work to do.

Aikman wants the NFL to divulge more details about what it knew regarding the long-term impact of repeated blows to the head, and when it knew it. Lynch said he expects even more litigation after the league tentatively agreed last week to pay out \$765 million to a group of former players.

"What I'm happy about is that there are players that need it (the money) and need it now, and they're going to be taken care of," Lynch said. "But I think the notion that this is done now and we can move

on is not really the reality. A new lawsuit was filed today, and from talking with Scott (Fujita) I think there are more to come."

It wasn't immediately clear which lawsuit Lynch was referring to, though one was filed Sunday in New Orleans. Former NFL players Jimmy Williams, Rich Mauti, Jimmy Keyes and Nolan Franz claim the league hid information about the dangers of brain injury.

While neither Lynch nor Aikman were part of the original lawsuit, both know a thing or two about concussions.

Lynch was one of the league's hardest hitting safeties in Tampa Bay and Denver from 1993 through 2007. Though Lynch has said he was never officially diagnosed with a concussion, he told a Tampa columnist in 2011 that there were times he was "woozy" and asked a teammate to take his spot closer to the line of scrim-

mage while he recovered.

Aikman won three Super Bowls with the Cowboys during the 1990s, but his 12-year career ended prematurely in part because of repeated concussions.

Today, Lynch and Aikman say they feel "great" and have shown no symptoms of long-term damage.

In fact, Aikman said he recently was tested in Dallas. Doctors, Aikman said, told him Tuesday that the tests were all clear.

While Aikman believes the settlement will help the former players with the most immediate need, he called the settlement a "win" for the NFL.

"It's a lot of money, but I think in terms of what could have been paid, it's not that much," Aikman said. "I think probably in the big scheme of things, it's a real positive. These guys will be able to benefit some and some money will

be put into research, which will help. The one thing I'm disappointed about is that the NFL didn't have to acknowledge what they knew about (the long-term impact) and when they knew about it. I think full disclosure would have been the best way to go, but that's not going to happen now."

If Lynch is right, perhaps the league will be forced into divulging more details.

Until then, the two will continue calling games on Fox Sports, where they have a new teammate in Randy Moss. The former receiver has rarely held his tongue, which is exactly what Fox executives wanted.

"He's being himself," Fox Sports executive producer John Entz said. "He's being very natural and organic, which is what we love about him."

Moss acknowledged that he hasn't settled on a style, and he may show a certain penchant for teams he played with

during his career. When asked to pick which NFC North team he thought would pose the biggest challenge to Green Bay's reign, he first said he was "biased" before blurting out the expected: The Minnesota Vikings.

And like the eccentric receiver who started his career in Minnesota, Moss didn't mince words, noting the two most important positions in football are quarterback and running back.

"I'm just excited to have something different in my life and something that I do know about is football," he said. "There's not too many things I do know about, but I do know football."

While he does seem to have an answer for everything, there is one exception. He doesn't want to talk about concussions.

"I have no comment on it. I know it's a serious issue," he said. "But I didn't have anything, and I don't want anything to do with it."

Ortiz leads Red Sox to 20-4 romp over Tigers



BOSTON
(AP)—David Ortiz hit two of

Boston's eight homers and also doubled for his 2,000th career hit on Wednesday night to lead the Red Sox to a 20-4 romp over the Detroit Tigers.

Will Middlebrooks hit a grand slam, Ortiz had an RBI double to reach the milestone and Daniel Nava added a two-run homer when Boston pulled away with an eight-run sixth inning.

Ortiz homered again in the five-run seventh—the 427th of his career to move past Billy Williams and into 47th on baseball's all-time home run list.

AL East-leading Boston has won nine of 11, taking two out of three from the Central-leading Tigers to hold onto the best record in the league. But after scores of 3-0 and 2-1 in the first two games of the series, the Red Sox burst out with a franchise record-tying eight homers and a season-high 20 runs.

Jacoby Ellsbury, Stephen Drew, Mike Napoli and Ryan Lavarnway also homered for the Red Sox.

Ryan Dempster (8-9) allowed four runs on six hits and two walks in six innings. Rick Porcello (11-8) gave up nine runs—eight of them earned—on seven hits and four walks in five-plus innings.

Rays 3, Angels 1

In Anaheim, Calif., rookie Wil

Myers hit two homers off Jered Weaver, and Tampa Bay kept pace in the AL wild-card race.

Jeremy Hellickson (11-8) pitched scoreless ball into the sixth inning of his first victory in nearly six weeks for the Rays, who won their second straight after a five-game skid.

Chris Iannetta hit a pinch-hit homer in the seventh for Los Angeles, which has lost 11 of 13 at home.

Indians 6, Orioles 4

In Cleveland, the Cleveland Indians, boosted by a good-luck chicken and a pair of RBIs from both Yan Gomes and Ryan Raburn, beat the Baltimore Orioles.

Cleveland pitcher Justin Masterson carried a live chicken on to the field for batting practice. The bird, supplied by a clubhouse workers from an area farm, was a gift to reliever Cody Allen.

The chicken spent most of batting practice standing with Cleveland's pitchers in front of the warning track in center field. Allen's teammates gave him the nickname "Chicken AI" in spring training and the chicken has been named "Cody."

Athletics 11, Rangers 4

In Oakland, Calif., Jarrod Parker got plenty of home-run help and pitched his way into Oakland's record book, and the surging Athletics pulled into a tie atop the AL West with Texas by overpowering the Rangers.

Parker (11-6) allowed two runs in six innings to extend his unbeaten streak to 18 straight starts, eclipsing Catfish Hunter's Oakland mark set from June 2-Sept. 3, 1973. Parker also has won his last nine decisions, the most by an A's pitcher since Dan Haren won 10 in a row in 2007.

Yankees 6, White Sox 5

In New York, struggling ace CC Sabathia pitched effectively into the eighth inning before Mariano Rivera earned his first four-out save in more than two years, helping the New York Yankees hold off the Chicago White Sox for a three-game sweep.

Robinson Cano homered for the Yankees, trying to chase down a playoff berth with a late-season charge. Brett Gardner hit a two-run triple and Lyle Overbay an RBI double in a four-run fourth against Erik Johnson (0-1), who was making his major league debut.

Astros 6, Twins 5

In Houston, Trevor Crowe hit an RBI single in the bottom of the ninth inning that lifted the Houston Astros over the Minnesota Twins.

Jonathan Villar singled to start the ninth and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by Jose Altuve. Crowe's line drive to left field off Brian Duensing (6-2) allowed the speedy Villar to score easily, giving Houston its first win

in six tries against Minnesota.

Mariners 6, Royals 4

In Kansas City, Mo., Kendrys Morales hit a two-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning for Seattle.

Morales hit his 18th home run to straight away center on a 1-2 pitch from Aaron Crow (7-5).

The Royals used eight pitchers, tying a club record for a nine-inning game.

Giants 13, Padres 5

In San Diego, Pablo Sandoval hit three homers and drove in six runs Wednesday, leading a rare power show by the San Francisco Giants in a 13-5 win over the San Diego Padres.

Sandoval started the day with 10 home runs this season. He then hit a two-run shot in the fifth inning, a leadoff drive in the eighth and a three-run homer in the ninth.

Sandoval's only previous three-homer game came in the opener of last year's World Series. He wound up as the MVP of the Series.

Cardinals 5, Reds 4, 16 innings

In Cincinnati, Matt Adams' second homer sent St. Louis to a victory over the Reds in 16 innings, protecting the Cardinals' hold on second place in the NL Central.

Adams broke an 0-for-17 slump by connecting in the 14th. After St. Louis let that lead get

away, he homered again off Logan Ondrusek (3-1), ending the Reds' longest game of the season.

Brewers 9, Pirates 3

In Milwaukee, Pirates ace Francisco Liriano lasted only three innings and the Milwaukee Brewers pounded out a victory to delay Pittsburgh from clinching its first winning season since 1992.

Liriano (15-7), who had allowed five earned runs in his previous four starts, was rocked for seven runs on seven hits, with two walks and two costly wild pitches. The Pirates, aiming for their 82nd victory, twice left the bases loaded and stranded 12 runners.

Rockies 7, Dodgers 5

In Denver, Jorge De La Rosa pitched six strong innings to win his sixth consecutive decision, Todd Helton homered and the Rockies snapped the Dodgers' six-game winning streak with a victory.

De La Rosa (16-6) allowed two runs and six hits in matching his career high for wins in a season and tying Washington's Jordan Zimmermann for most wins in the National League. De La Rosa went 16-9 in 2009 for the Rockies.

Mets 5, Braves 2

In Atlanta, Lucas Duda had three hits, including a home run, and Andrew Brown added a towering two-run shot to lead Dillon Gee and the Mets to a win over the Braves.

Gee (11-9) cruised after he was given a 5-0 lead in the third. The right-hander allowed one run on four hits in seven innings.

Cubs 9, Marlins 7

In Chicago, Donnie Murphy homered to cap a four-run rally in the seventh inning and the Cubs connected four times to beat the Marlins.

Murphy's two-run shot put the Cubs ahead 8-7. Starlin Castro, Dioner Navarro and Ryan Sweeney each added solo home runs for Chicago.

Nationals 3, Phillies 2

In Philadelphia, Jordan Zimmermann became the National League's first 16-game winner, pitching seven solid innings to lead the Nationals past the Phillies.

Zimmermann (16-8) struck out five, walked one and allowed two runs in winning his fourth straight start.

Diamondbacks 4, Blue Jays 3

In Phoenix, Willie Bloomquist lined his third hit for a run-scoring single in the 10th inning and the Arizona Diamondbacks avoided a three-game sweep with a win over the Blue Jays.

Eric Chavez got the final rally started by blooming a single off Luis Perez (0-1) and pinch-runner Adam Eaton moved to third on A.J. Pollock's single off Jeremy Jeffress. Bloomquist then singled through Toronto's drawn-in infield to cap the Diamondbacks' franchise record-tying 21st extra-inning game.

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Usain Bolt to retire after Rio Olympics

BRUSSELS (AP)—Usain Bolt plans to retire after the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics.

Bolt said Wednesday he wants to win more gold in Rio, set another world record in the 200 meters next year, and perhaps win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games.

"So far, (it) is after the Olympics in Rio," Bolt said of his retirement plans. "I think if I am in great shape, I'll go there and do what I have to do. I think it will be a good time to retire on top."

Winning another three golds in Moscow last month made him the most decorated athlete in world championship history with eight gold and two silvers. He has six gold medals from the Olympics.

"If I want to be among the



Athlete Usain Bolt of Jamaica addresses the media at the Sheraton hotel in Brussels on Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013.

Celtics pleads not guilty to assault charges

WALTHAM, Mass. (AP)—Boston Celtics forward Jared Sullinger pleaded not guilty Tuesday to domestic violence-related charges after allegedly repeatedly pinning his girlfriend to a bed and the floor.

Bail for Sullinger, 21, was set at \$5,000 after his plea on charges including assault and battery and intimidation of a witness.

Later Tuesday, Sullinger released a statement through the Celtics in which he apologized and called the experience "humbling and embarrassing."

"I know that this situation has brought both sorrow and embarrassment to my girlfriend, my family, the Boston Celtics organization, my teammates, and my fans," he said. "To all of you, I apologize from the bottom of my heart."

Police say officers were called to Sullinger's residence Saturday evening by his girlfriend, Deann Smith. She told



In this Feb. 13, 2013 file photo, Boston Celtics forward Jared Sullinger speaks to reporters about his season-ending back surgery before an NBA basketball game against the Chicago Bulls in Boston.

them that earlier that day he'd assaulted her after she accused him of cheating on her and began packing.

"During this heated argument in the bedroom, Jared pushed

her down onto the bed and got on top of her," Waltham police wrote in a report. "Deann states she tried several times to get up, but he kept pinning her down and would not let her up."

The report said Sullinger later threw Smith to the floor and wouldn't let her up.

Smith told police that Sullinger grabbed her phone after she threatened to call police and then left because he was scheduled to fly to Ohio. She told police she called them only after she knew Sullinger was out of state.

Police said Smith still had red marks visible on her chest when she spoke to them.

Police issued a warrant for Sullinger's arrest and he turned himself in at about 6 a.m. Tuesday.

Sullinger's attorney, Charles Rankin, said in court that Sullinger and Smith were "long-time sweethearts" who met at Ohio State University. He told the judge that Smith waited 10 hours before calling Waltham police for help.

Sullinger averaged six points and almost six rebounds per game in 45 games as a rookie last season.

greats of (Muhammad) Ali and Pele and all these guys, I have to continue dominating until I retire," Bolt said ahead of his final race this season in the 100 at Friday's Van Damme Memorial.

Bolt won the 100, 200 and 4x100 relay at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and at last year's London Games. He won the same triple at the 2009 worlds before repeating that feat in Moscow last month.

At 27, Bolt has the experience to know that a lax season midway between Olympics can hurt him. In 2010, a soft entry into the year and subsequent injury cost him almost a full season.

"I kind of didn't do much in the offseason and then got injured and had to start from scratch. So this season, I will not make that mistake again," Bolt said.

Like 2010, next season has no major championships, but

Bolt is thinking of new goals for 2014.

He already owns the 100 and 200 world records and shares the 4x100 with his Jamaican teammates. He acknowledges the 100 record of 9.58 seconds will be extremely tough to better, but he hopes to improve on the 19.19 he ran in the 200 in Berlin four years ago.

"I have learned, I have mastered the art of running the turn," Bolt said of the 200. "So if I can stay injury free and be in good shape, then it is possible for me to definitely go after the world record."

As a Jamaican, Bolt can compete in the Commonwealth Games, too, something he has yet to do. Next year, the event will be held in Glasgow, Scotland.

"I have never been to Commonwealths and so it is always good to add to your collection of gold medals," Bolt said.

ROLLERS

From Page 32

28, Sam Darag tried to bring the Ol'Aces back into the game in the second half, but drew little help from his teammates, while Malonzo and company held their ground to keep the safe distance and the win.

Sonics 102, Warriors 15

In last Friday's first match, the Sonics recorded the biggest winning margin of the season after demolishing the COPSSA Warriors, 102-15.

The one-sided affair was decided right at the end of the first quarter when the Sonics zoomed to a 24-0 lead.

Emerson Feria paced the Sonics (4-1) with his 23 points, while three of the four other starters of the defending champions also finished in twin digits.

S.J. Ol'Aces 73, Cougars 66

In the other game last Friday, the S.J. Ol'Aces remained undefeated in five games after downing the Kagman Cougars (4-2).

Chris Mizer lifted the S.J. Ol'Aces to their fifth straight win after scoring 19 points, 12 of them came from beyond the arc. Marc Babauta and Derek

Olopai contributed 16 and 10 markers, respectively.

The S.J. Ol'Aces got off to a good start, taking a 26-17 lead, and answered every shots from the Cougars in the last three quarters to keep the driver's seat. Babauta and Mizer teamed up in the first frame, combining for 15 points.

First Game

Rollers 50 — Malonzo 15, Morales 5, Iglecias 5, Arciaga 4, Fidelino 4, Ano 2, Aldan 2.

Ol'Aces 45 — Darag 18, Floresca 7, Kaipat 5, De Luna 4, Magofna 4, Cruz 3, Laniyo 1.

Scoring by quarters: 15-11, 28-13, 38-25, 50-45.

Second Game

Sonics 102 — Feria 26, Aranda 19, Borromeo 15, Alegre 14, Tudela 12, Dela Rosa 8.

COPSSA Warriors 15 — Omori 6, Cepeda 4, Po 4, Amog 1.

Scoring by quarters: 24-0, 39-4, 71-14, 102-15.

Third Game

S.J. Ol'Aces 73 — Mizer 19, Babauta 16, Olopai 10, Pettis 9, De Leon 6, Camacho 2.

Kagman Cougars 66 — Lampkin 23, Darag 14, Mettao 8, Jo. Santos 6, Je. Santos 5.

Scoring by quarters: 26-17, 45-36, 57-48, 73-66.

VETERANS

From Page 32

ter topping Cardinio in the first semis duel, 21-15, 21-17. Pangilinan advanced, following a 21-18, 16-21, 21-15 victory over Dianne Francisco, who saved third place after edging Cardinio in the consolation game, 21-14, 18-21, 21-17.

In the Class C singles finals, U18 player Havika Farro needed only two games to beat Ro-

wena Sison, 21-14, 21-18. Farro marched into the finale after also defeating Roxe Lazaro in two games, 21-14, 21-16, while Sison took the second title berth after slipping past Nicole Malasarte, 18-21, 21-15, 21-16.

After losing to Farro in the singles, Sison came back with victory in doubles division. Sison partnered with Francisco and together they thumped the youthful duo of Farro and Mikki Caracut in the finals, 21-16, 21-17. Lani Santos and Lazaro

rounded out the Top 3 after beating Malasarte and Mika Sison in the consolation match, 21-14, 21-18.

In the Class B doubles finals, Obata joined forces with Windy Fernandez to prevail against Ortega and Francisco, 21-16, 21-18. Pangilinan and Cardinio settled for third after a 21-14, 21-16 win over Elna Curate and Loida Ito.

After falling short in the Class B doubles, Ortega finally brought home a gold medal, as she and Choi ruled the Class A

doubles. Ortega and Choi won over Fernandez and Lani Bartolome, 21-14, 21-16. Obata and Ana Omori completed the Top 3 after defeating Shirley Kim and Ana Alvarez, 21-14, 21-18.

Ortega went on to take her second gold medal in doubles, as she and Lucelle Lampera topped Ito and Kim in the 35-and-over division, 21-16, 21-19. Curate and Lani Santos finished third after a 21-16, 21-14 win over Cristy Villafior and Gigi Zapanta.

the sixth inning when he singles, stole second, and made it to third and home off the Giants' miscues.

The Braves went on to wrestle back the lead in the seventh inning off a sacrifice fly and a stolen base. On defense, J.J. Li-foi closed out for the Braves and got two strikeouts in two innings pitched. He also caught a fly ball from Franco Nakamura to end the game with the Giants in scoring position.

TIGERS

From Page 32

make-up match last Monday.

The Yankees (2-3) and the Cardinals were in a standoff after three innings, 1-all, before the former seized control of the match at the bottom of the fourth behind Gino Dela Cruz. The Yankees starting pitcher blasted a three-RBI double to put his team on top. Dela Cruz

also reached home off Ian Lizama's triple.

The Cardinals answered with only one run off a wild pitch in the fifth inning and the Yankees got it back quickly in the sixth off Darion Jones' two-RBI single. The Cardinals tried to extend the game at the top of the seventh with two early runs and later loaded the bases with two outs, but Joe Monkeya was beaten to first base for the final out.

Braves 5, Giants 3

In the last make-up match, the Braves (5-1) edged the Giants (3-2) to grab the No. 2 spot in the seven-team field.

It was a come-from-behind win for the Braves, who were down after four complete innings, 1-4. The Braves started the recovery in the fifth with A.J. Lizama nailing an RBI single and K.J. Kalen scoring off a fielder's choice. Peter Lieto then tied the match in

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	84	57	.596	—
Tampa Bay	77	61	.558	5Q
New York	75	64	.540	8
Baltimore	73	65	.529	9Q
Toronto	64	76	.457	19Q

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	81	59	.579	—
Cleveland	74	65	.532	6Q
Kansas City	72	67	.518	8Q
Minnesota	61	77	.442	19
Chicago	56	82	.406	24

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	80	59	.576	—
Texas	80	59	.576	—
Los Angeles	64	74	.464	15Q
Seattle	63	76	.453	17
Houston	46	93	.331	34

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	85	54	.612	—
Washington	71	68	.511	14
New York	63	75	.457	21Q
Philadelphia	63	77	.450	22Q
Miami	52	86	.377	32Q

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Pittsburgh	81	58	.583	—
St. Louis	80	59	.576	1
Cincinnati	78	62	.557	3Q
Milwaukee	60	79	.432	21
Chicago	59	80	.424	22

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	83	56	.597	—
Arizona	70	68	.507	12Q
Colorado	66	75	.468	18
San Diego	62	77	.446	21
San Francisco	62	77	.446	21

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Footballs clubs receive donated balls, bags

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Tan Siu Lin Foundation through Saipan Soccer School donated balls and bags to seven football clubs in time for the opening of the 2013 NMIFA Youth Fall League.

TSL Foundation manager Maggie Sablan and SSS coaches and staff turned over 15 balls and 15 draw string bags to representatives of MP United FC, Matansa FC, Kanoa FC, Shirley's FC, Tan Holdings FC, Paire FC, Tinian Premier FC in a brief ceremony at the Kanoa Resort last Sunday.

"We, at TSL Foundation, would like to acknowledge the hard work put up by these football clubs in training and improving the skills of our youth players. Through the efforts of coaches, officials, and volunteers of the various clubs, soccer continues to grow in the CNMI. This is our way of saying thank you to them," Sablan said.

The timing of the donation is perfect, as the seven clubs will start their campaign in the fall season next Saturday, competing in the U6, U8, U10,



Saipan Soccer School coaches, Tan Siu Lin Foundation officials, and representatives of various football clubs pose for a group photo during the donation turnover ceremony last Sunday at Kanoa Resort.

U12, U15, and U18 divisions.

"We would like to thank Saipan Soccer School and TSL Foundation for their continued support and effort to help out in expanding football in the island. Additional balls mean additional players for CNMI," MP United vice president Norman del Rosario said.

Del Rosario added the donated balls will be distributed to the different age group teams and

will be used in training sessions.

"The more balls the more touches the kids can have and for the bags we will give it to our 'pass back coaches,' who our players in the U15 and U18 age and are coaching the lower age group teams. We are looking at around 152 players this season and they maybe a little more as we are still receiving registration," the MP United official said.

Matansa FC will also divide the balls among the 80 youth players participating in the fall youth league that will start on Sept. 14 at the various school pitches on Saipan.

"The balls will be used for practices and training sessions for the fall season. We will use the drawstring bags to award and recognize players at the end of the fall season," Matansa FC president Elna Curate said.

Amateur bikers to get cash prizes in 'Hell'

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

HELL OF THE MARIANAS THE BIG CENTURY CYCLE

The 7th Annual Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle Race will be giving away cash prizes, not only to pro riders, but also to amateurs when the event kicks off on Dec. 7.

Race director Kanae Quinn in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* said the awarding of cash prizes to amateur bikers is one of the changes in this year's 100-kilometer race besides the modification of the course. She added they decided to give cash prizes to the Top 3 finishers in each age group in the solo road bike division to entice more amateur bikers on and off-island to join this year's Hell of Marianas.

The age group champions will receive \$300, while the second and third finishers take home \$200 and \$100, respectively. In the past six editions of the Hell of Marianas, age group winners only went home with medals. This year's HOM has five age group categories: 14 to 25, 26 to 35, 37 to 45, 46 to 55, and 56-and-over.

Entrance fee is only \$60 for solo, \$120 for a two-man team, and \$240 for four-man team. A \$10 discount will be given to bikers who register online on or before Sept. 10, while the deadline for registration is set for Nov. 30.

Meanwhile, Quinn said the change in the course (starting and finish line at Mariana Resort)



A small group of bikers heads to Kingfisher during last year's Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race.

will reduce traffic during the early morning race, as less cars and people pass by the Marpi area.

For the past six years, the race started and ended at the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio and

from 6am to noon, bikers shared the road (Beach Road down to PIC) with motorists, pedestrians, and even stray dogs.

Besides the Mariana Resort, bikers competing in the century race will also pedal through the Airport Road, Isa Drive, Talafofo (going to Kingfisher Golf Course), Radar Station, Bird Island Lookout, Suicide Cliff, and Banzai Cliff.

Pre-HOM ride Oct. 13

A pre-HOM race will be held on Oct. 13.

The CNMI Chapter of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter is hosting the event that will feature 25K and 50K distance. Entrance fee is only \$10 for adults and \$10 for U18 bikers.

For the 50K race, the course will start and end at Mariana Resort with bikers heading toward Last Command Post for a U-turn and then go south to Isa Drive/Pale Arnold, turn right on Matansa Drive on the way up to Radar Station. From there, bikers will head down Matansa Drive, turn right to Chalan Kalabera, go up to Suicide Cliff for a U-turn to the Bird Island, ride back to Chalan Kalabera, turn right to Banzai, and return to Mariana Resort. The 25K course has the same route, but after the climb up to Radar Station, bikers will return straight to Mariana Resort.

For more information about Hell of Marianas or the pre-HOM race, contact Quinn at 285-1168 or send email to hom-race@yahoo.com.

All set for Steven Brownstein Golf Classic



The Saipan Chamber of Commerce announced updates for its 6th Annual SCC/Steven Brownstein Golf Classic scheduled for Oct. 5, 2013 at Laolao Bay Golf Resort at the SCC general membership meeting Wednesday.

The two-person team Scramble format tournament had originally been scheduled for Oct. 26, 2013, but has been rescheduled due to conflicting events.

Chamber president Alex Sablan stated, "There's no use waiting any longer to get this year's champions crowned. And those champions would be the college students that will benefit from our fundraising efforts. We gave \$12,000 this year to Saipan high school students heading to college, so the Chamber needs to get ready for a repeat performance next year with proceeds from our tournament at Laolao Bay."

SCC Events Committee chair Nola Hix and Kevin McCale reported sponsorship, participation, and funds raised should exceed all previous years.

"We've already received sponsorship for 18 holes, have four hole-in-one prizes, and four closest-to-the-pin prizes on all the par 3s. We'll sell inexpensive tickets for participation in all the par 3s close to the pins, and a long drive contest for cash awards. Airline tickets, cell

phones, and cable TV subscriptions are for the par 3s, as well as cash awards for \$20,000, \$10,000, and new automobiles for hole-in-ones," said Hix.

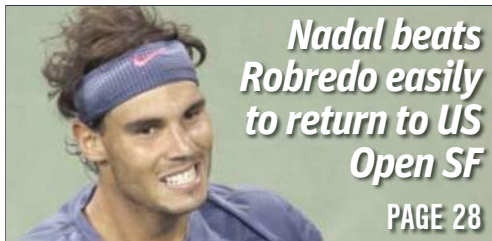
Chamber executive director Richard Pierce stated, "Besides our traditional sponsors like DFS Galleria that will give two luxury handbags, sponsor a hole, and provide us with a free TOC (Tournament of Champions) entry, the Hyatt Regency and the Fiesta with weekend stays at their hotel and restaurant certificates, Delta Air Lines with two tickets to the U.S. mainland, Docomo Pacific, and IT&E communications, we have new companies like Dave Dougherty's Pacific Marine Enterprises that's donating a \$1,000 gold PENN International Model 80VSW fishing reel that will definitely get those golfer/fishermen buying raffle tickets at the awards banquet. There's so much more, too."

The tournament format is a two-person team scramble. All categories, men's low gross, men's double Peoria, and women's double Peoria will have first, second, and third place winners for \$1,000, \$600, and \$400 each.

Entry forms and information are available at the Chamber offices in the K Family Building in Garapan, or by calling 233-7150, or emailing coordinator@saipanchamber.com. (PR)



Saipan Chamber of Commerce executive director Richard Pierce and Events Committee's Nola Hix and Kevin McCale pose with Bank of Hawaii staff after getting the \$20,000 hole-in-one donation from the company.



Nadal beats Robredo easily to return to US Open SF
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Saipan Tribune Sports



Ortiz leads Red Sox to 20-4 romp over Tigers
PAGE 29

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Veterans prevail in Shirley's Badminton Classic



Alma Ortega makes a backhand return during her and Dianne Francisco's semis game against Janelle Pangilinan and Jen Cardinio in the women's class B doubles of the 2013 Shirley's Badminton Classic last weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The seasoned warriors of Northern Marianas Badminton Association showed poise against much younger foes in the women's division of the Shirley's Badminton Classic over the weekend.



In the Class A singles finals, 56-year-old Hannai Choi of Saipan Badminton Club defeated U18 player Janelle Pangilinan of Community Badminton Club, 21-14, 21-12. Choi moved a win away from defending her Class A crown after ousting Pangilinan's teammate and eventual third placer Jen Cardinio in the semifinals, 21-15, 21-15. Pangilinan took the second finals berth after eliminating Lani Bartolome in the other Final Four pairing, 21-16, 17-21, 21-12.

Pangilinan also made it to the title match of Class B, but was spoiled by another veteran player—Toshiko Obata. The Japanese lost last year's Class B finals to U18 player Jen Savellano, but this time went home victorious, surviving Pangilinan in three games, 21-14, 16-21, 21-18. Obata earned a return trip to the finals af-

See VETERANS on Page 30

Rollers hold off Ol'Aces

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The Rollers out-classed the Ol'Aces, 50-45, in one of the U19 games in the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League played last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Irvin Malonzo top-scored

for the Rollers with his 15 points. He made 9 of them in the second quarter to help the Rollers pull away with the double-digit lead. The Rollers were on top by only 4 after the first period, 15-11, when Malonzo heated up, while the Ol'Aces' offense went cold, as they logged only 2 points.

Down by 15 at halftime, 13-20, the Rollers pulled away to win 50-45. **See ROLLERS on Page 30**



The Rollers' Irvin Malonzo scans the floor first before making a move against an Ol'Aces defender during their game in the U19 division of the Rotary caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The Tigers tore apart the Cardinals, 13-2, to notch back-to-back wins in the 2nd Annual Triple A Youth Baseball League last Wednesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Tigers broke away at the top of the fourth inning, scoring eight runs en route to the easy win. The run spree started with Ricardo Dela Cruz hitting a fly ball deep to leftfield and Cardinals outfielder Ayana Ongelungel failing to catch it. The other Cardinals outfielder tried to help her out, but also fumbled and that allowed three Tigers runners to come home. The Tigers had earlier scored three runs also off the Cardinals' erratic defense, while two more were made off base hits, giving the former a big 11-0 lead.

Tigers crush Cardinals



A Tigers pitcher throws to a Braves batter during their game in the 2nd Annual Triple A Youth Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Cardinals failed to light up the scoreboard in the first three innings, as the Tigers starting pitcher Justin Reyes allowed only one hit and stranded three runners, while reliever Jose Lizama took the mound in the third and got two early strikeouts. The Cardinals broke their silence in the fifth inning, but failed to mount a comeback in the last two to remain winless in five games.

The Tigers improved to a 2-4 record, as they survived the Dodgers, 3-2, in a make-up game last Monday.

Dela Cruz scored the go-ahead run at the bottom of the sixth inning, blasting a single, stealing second, walking to third, and eventually making it home off a passed ball.

Yankees 8, Cardinals 4

Also gaining their second straight win were the Yankees, who defeated the Cardinals in the second game. **See TIGERS on Page 30**